

**Archie**  
ADVENTURE  
SERIES  
NO.1 US \$2.00  
CAN \$2.50

**SONIC SUPER SPECIAL**

# BATTLE ROYAL

**48 PAGE SPECIAL!**





**SONIC vs. KNUCKLES™**

# **BATTLE ROYAL**



## **"BATTLE ROYAL!"**

**Kent Taylor & Ken Pender-Writers, Sam Maxwell-Penciler  
Jim Amash-Inker, Karl Bollers-Colorist, Jeff Powell-Letterer**

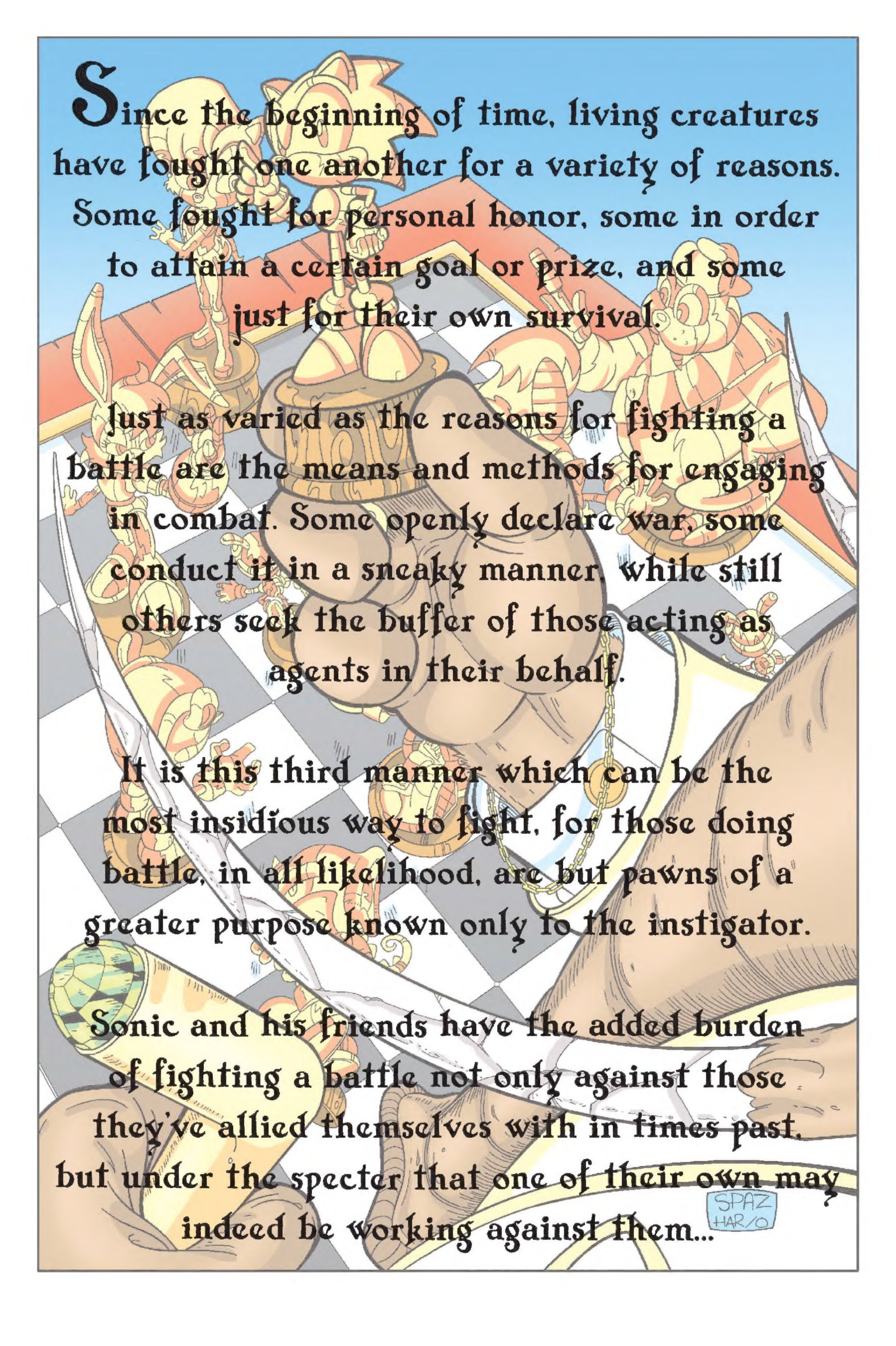
## **"THE MAP"**

**Tom Rolston-Writer, Dave Manak-Penciler, Rich Koslowski-Inker  
Barry Grossman-Colorist, Vickie Williams-Letterer**

**J. Freddy Gabriele-Editor, Victor Gorelick-Managing Editor  
Richard Goldwater-Editor-In-Chief**

**SPECIAL THANKS to Susan Suarez and Helen Ball**





Since the beginning of time, living creatures have fought one another for a variety of reasons. Some fought for personal honor, some in order to attain a certain goal or prize, and some just for their own survival.

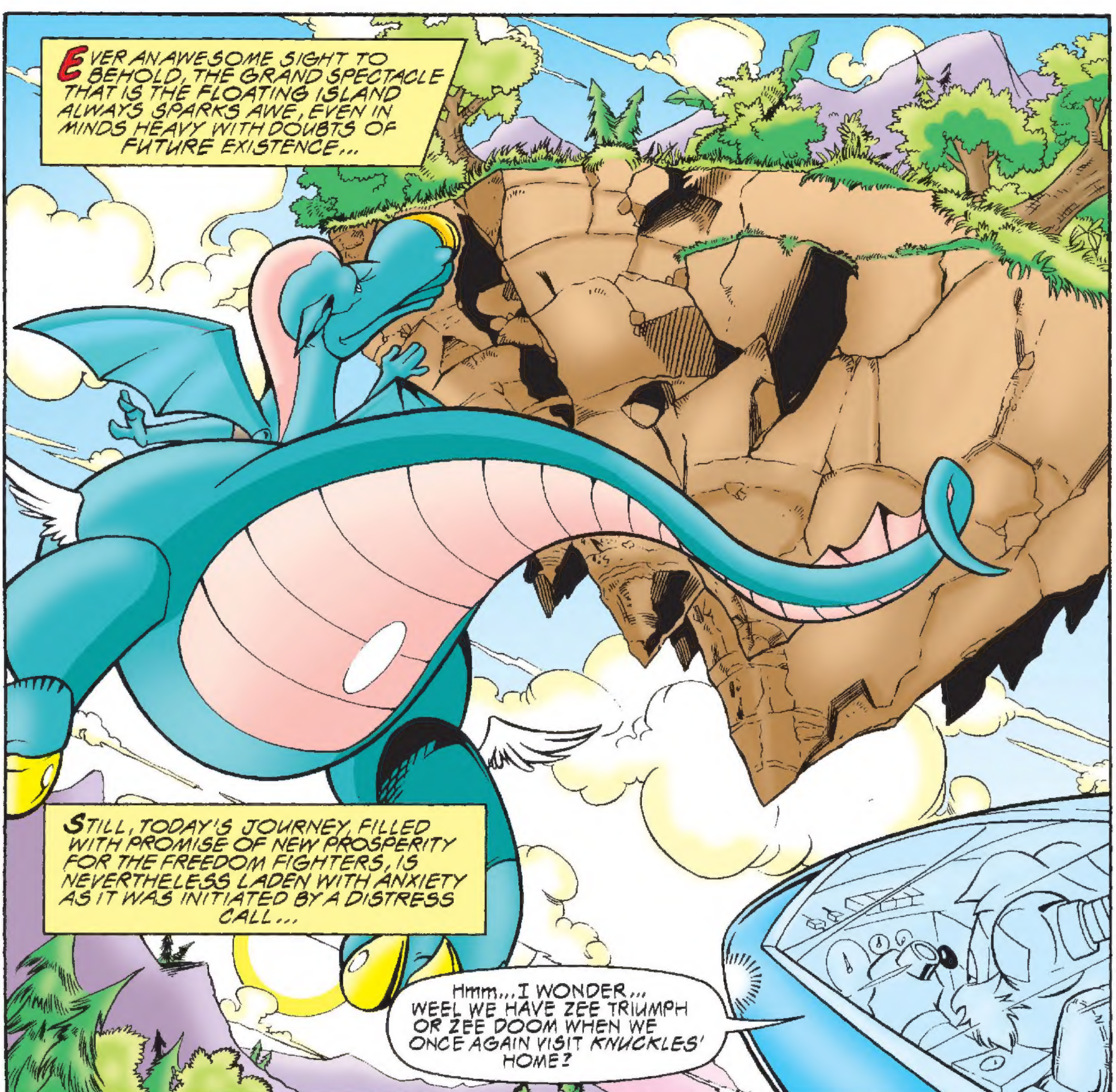
Just as varied as the reasons for fighting a battle are the means and methods for engaging in combat. Some openly declare war, some conduct it in a sneaky manner, while still others seek the buffer of those acting as agents in their behalf.

It is this third manner which can be the most insidious way to fight, for those doing battle, in all likelihood, are but pawns of a greater purpose known only to the instigator.

Sonic and his friends have the added burden of fighting a battle not only against those they've allied themselves with in times past, but under the specter that one of their own may indeed be working against them...

SPAZ  
HAR/O

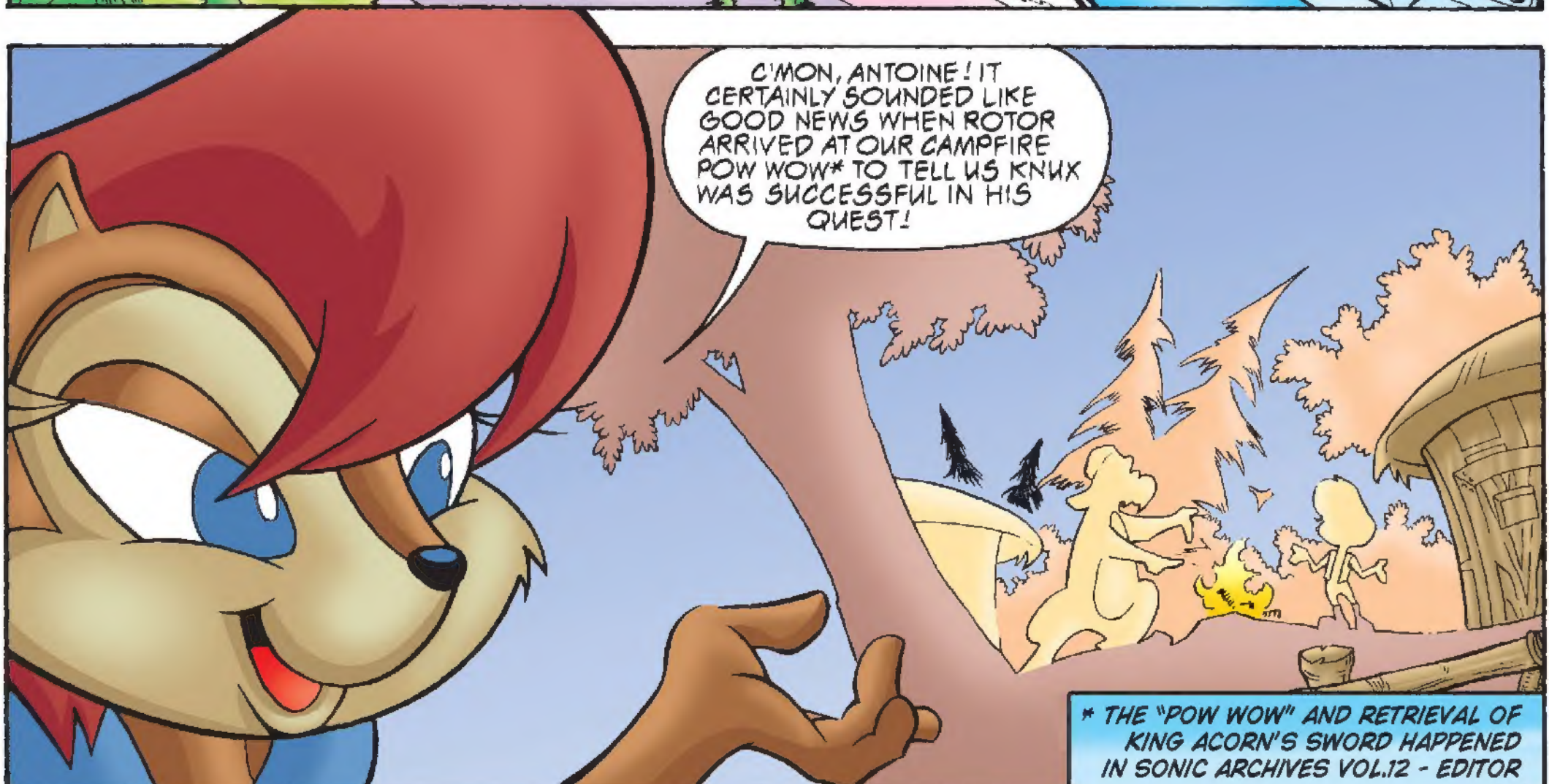




EVER AN AWESOME SIGHT TO BEHOLD, THE GRAND SPECTACLE THAT IS THE FLOATING ISLAND ALWAYS SPARKS AWE, EVEN IN MINDS HEAVY WITH DOUBTS OF FUTURE EXISTENCE...

STILL, TODAY'S JOURNEY, FILLED WITH PROMISE OF NEW PROSPERITY FOR THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS, IS NEVERTHELESS LADEN WITH ANXIETY AS IT WAS INITIATED BY A DISTRESS CALL...

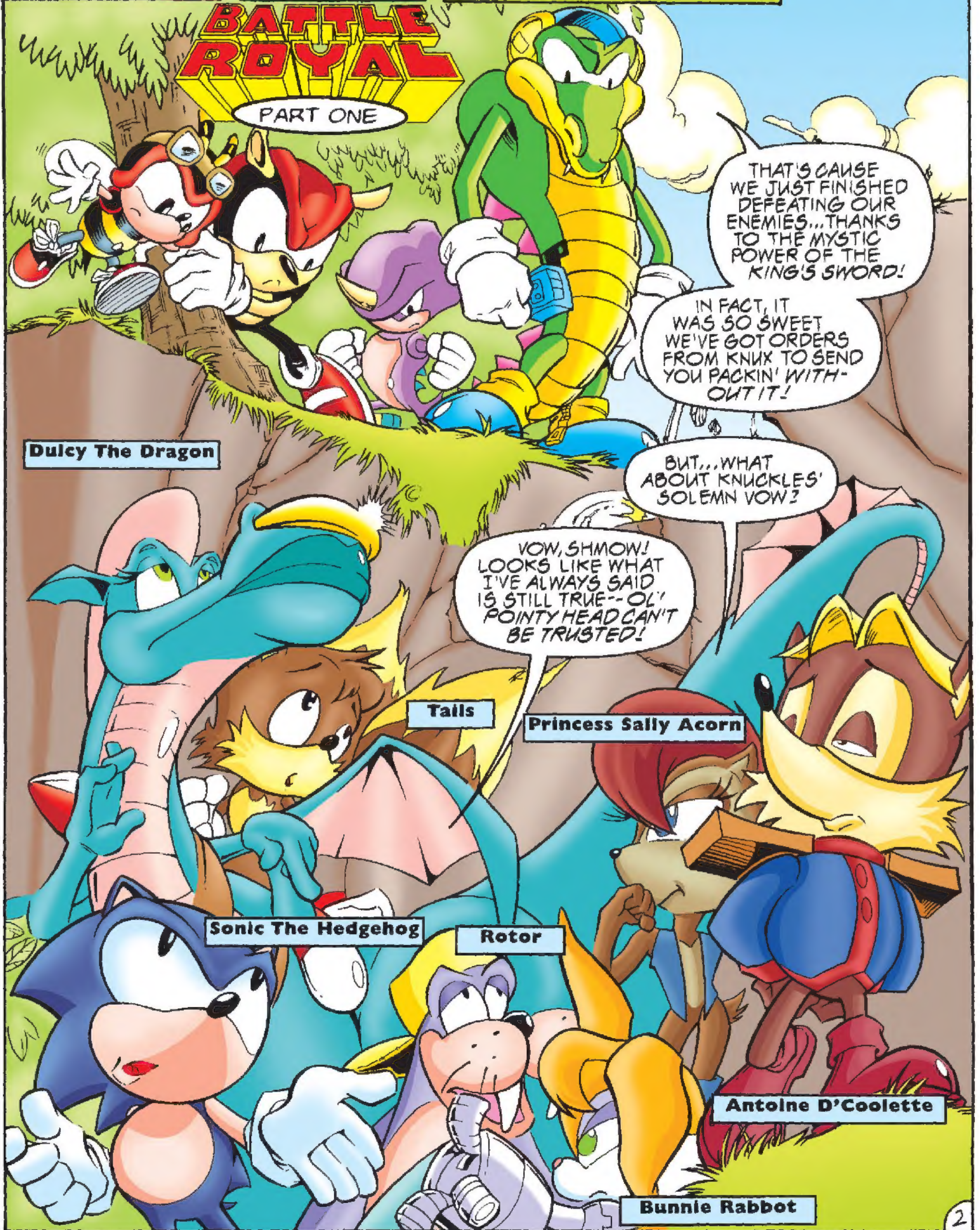
Hmm... I WONDER... WE'LL WE HAVE ZEE TRIUMPH OR ZEE DOOM WHEN WE ONCE AGAIN VISIT KNUCKLES' HOME?



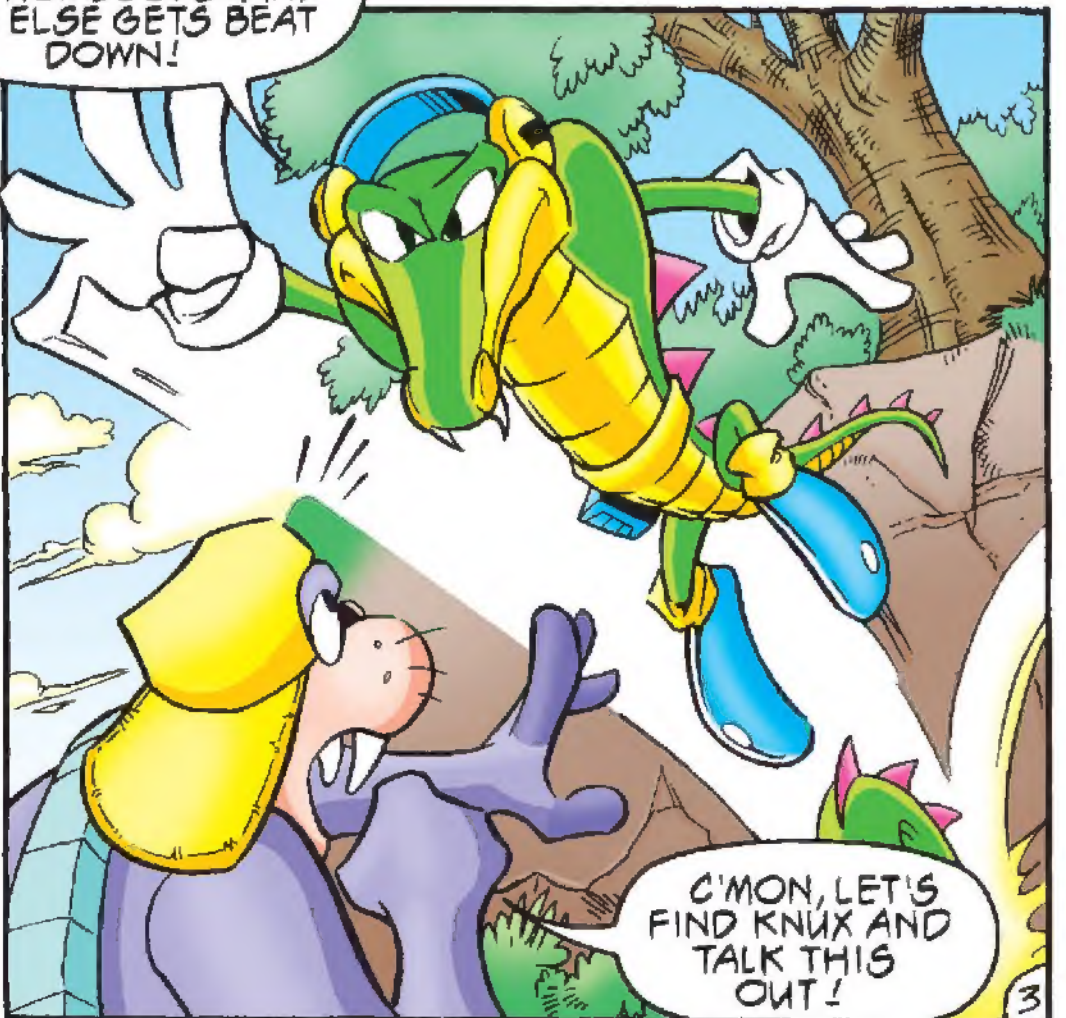
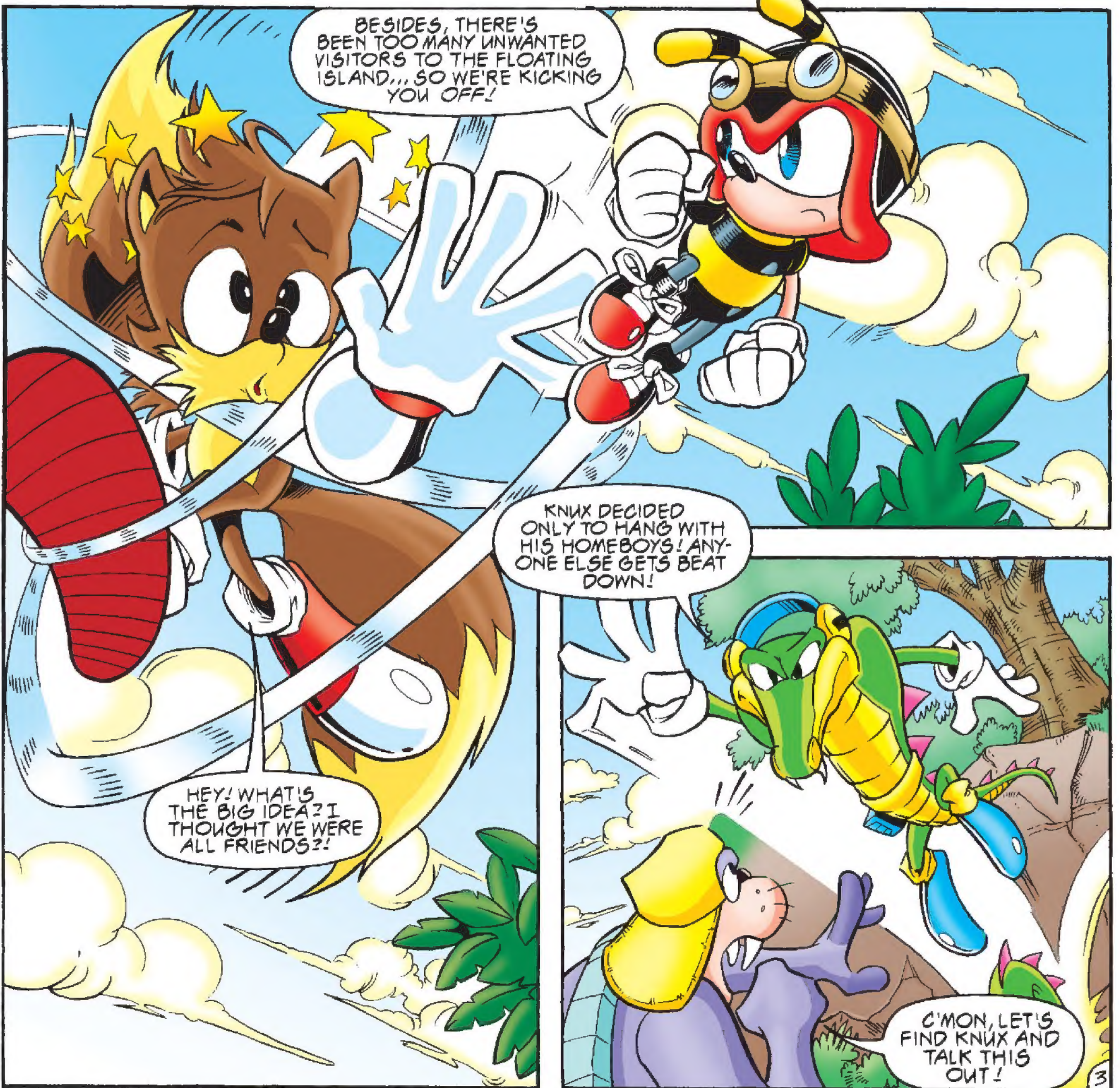
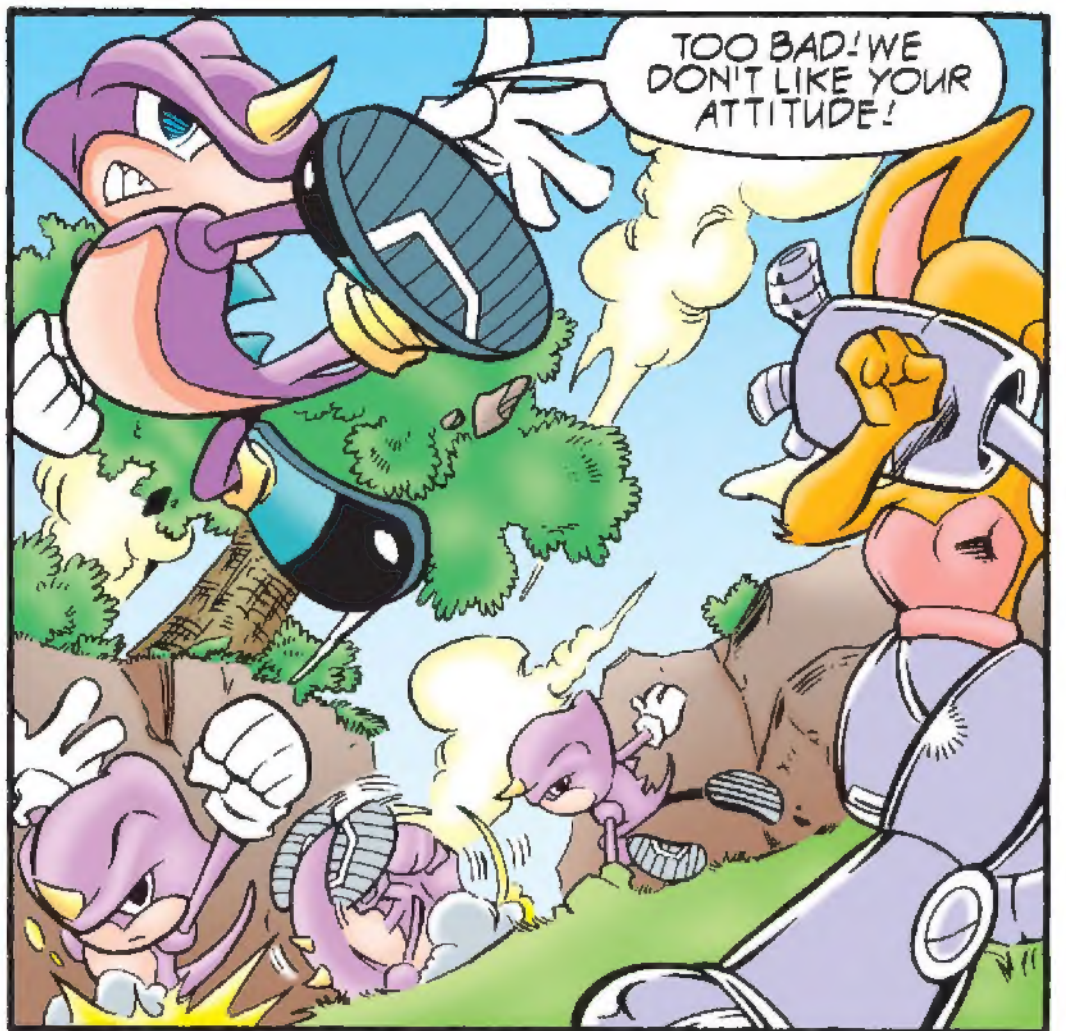
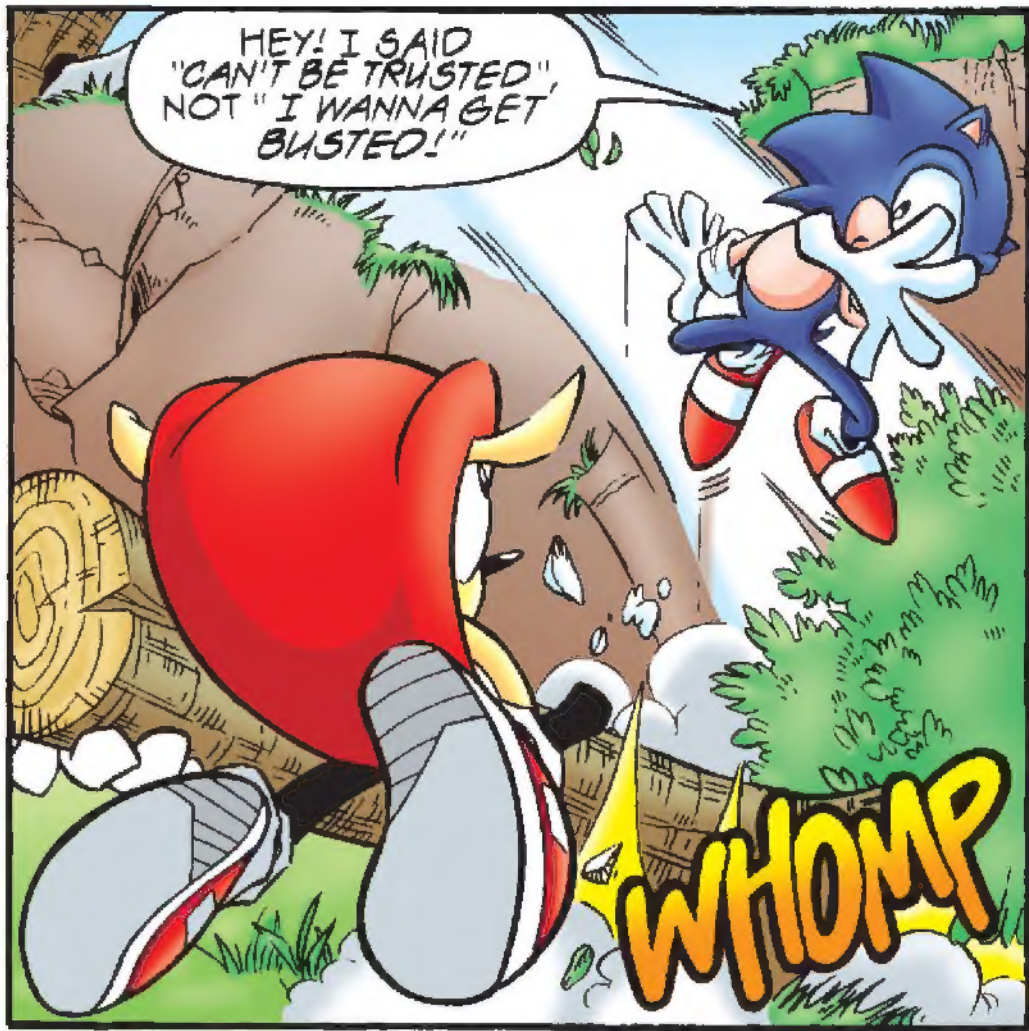
C'MON, ANTOINE! IT CERTAINLY SOUNDED LIKE GOOD NEWS WHEN ROTOR ARRIVED AT OUR CAMPFIRE POW WOW\* TO TELL US KNUX WAS SUCCESSFUL IN HIS QUEST!

\* THE "POW WOW" AND RETRIEVAL OF KING ACORN'S SWORD HAPPENED IN SONIC ARCHIVES VOL.12 - EDITOR

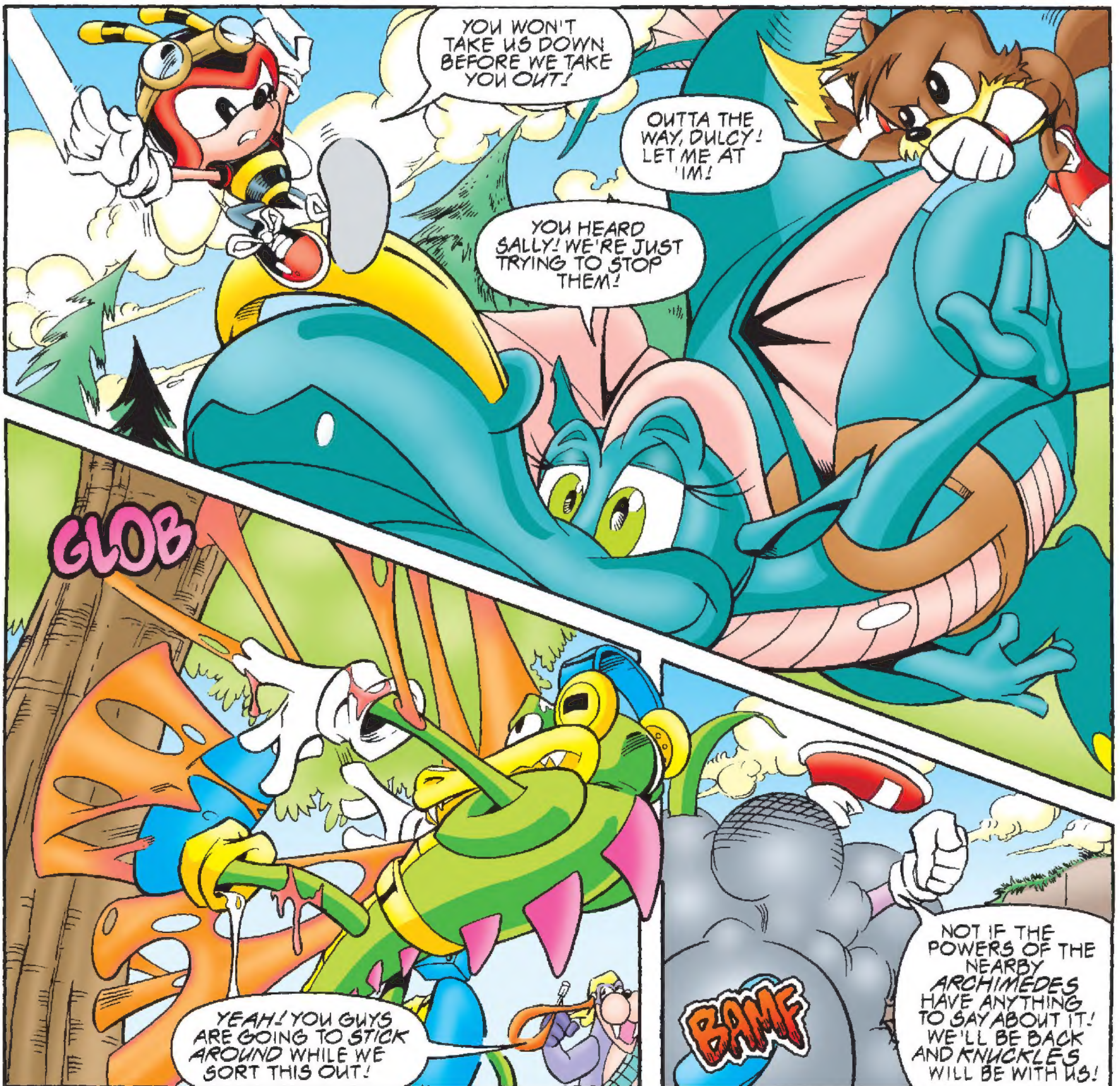
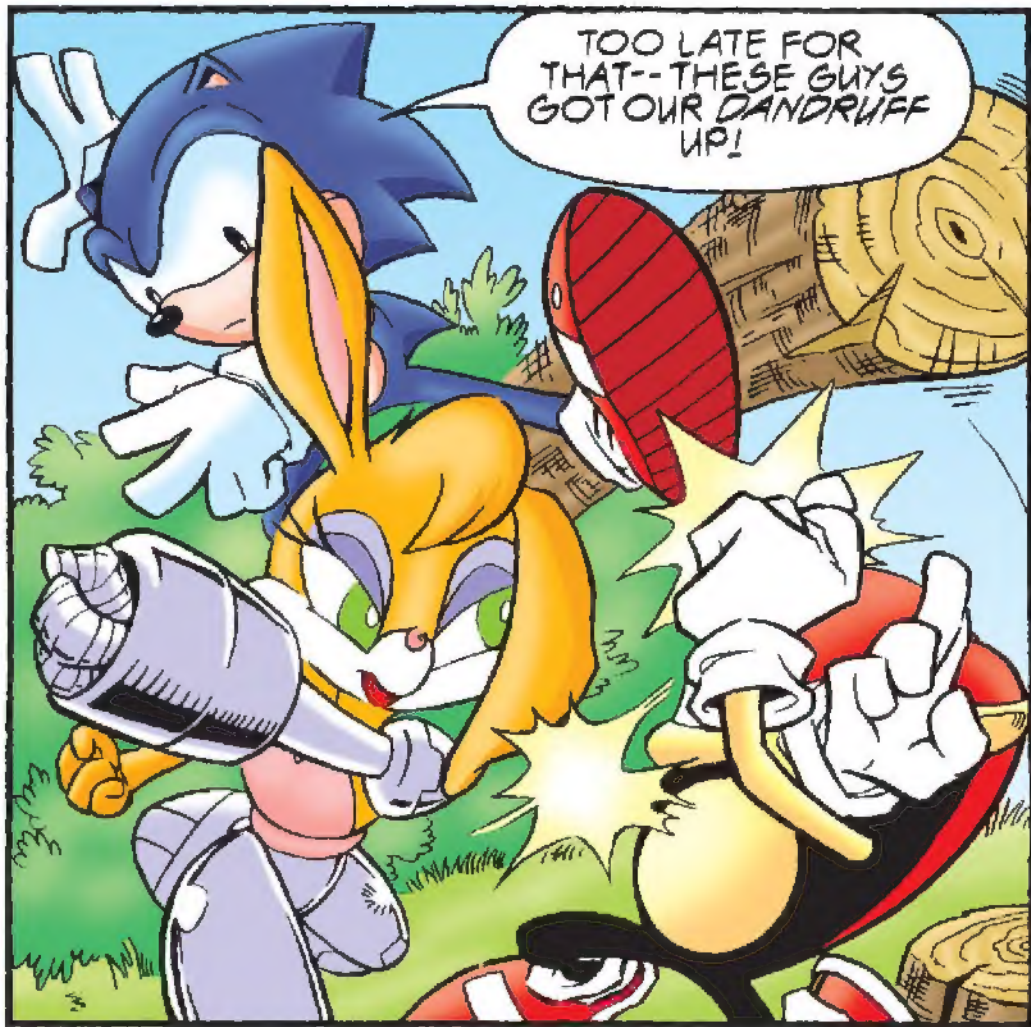




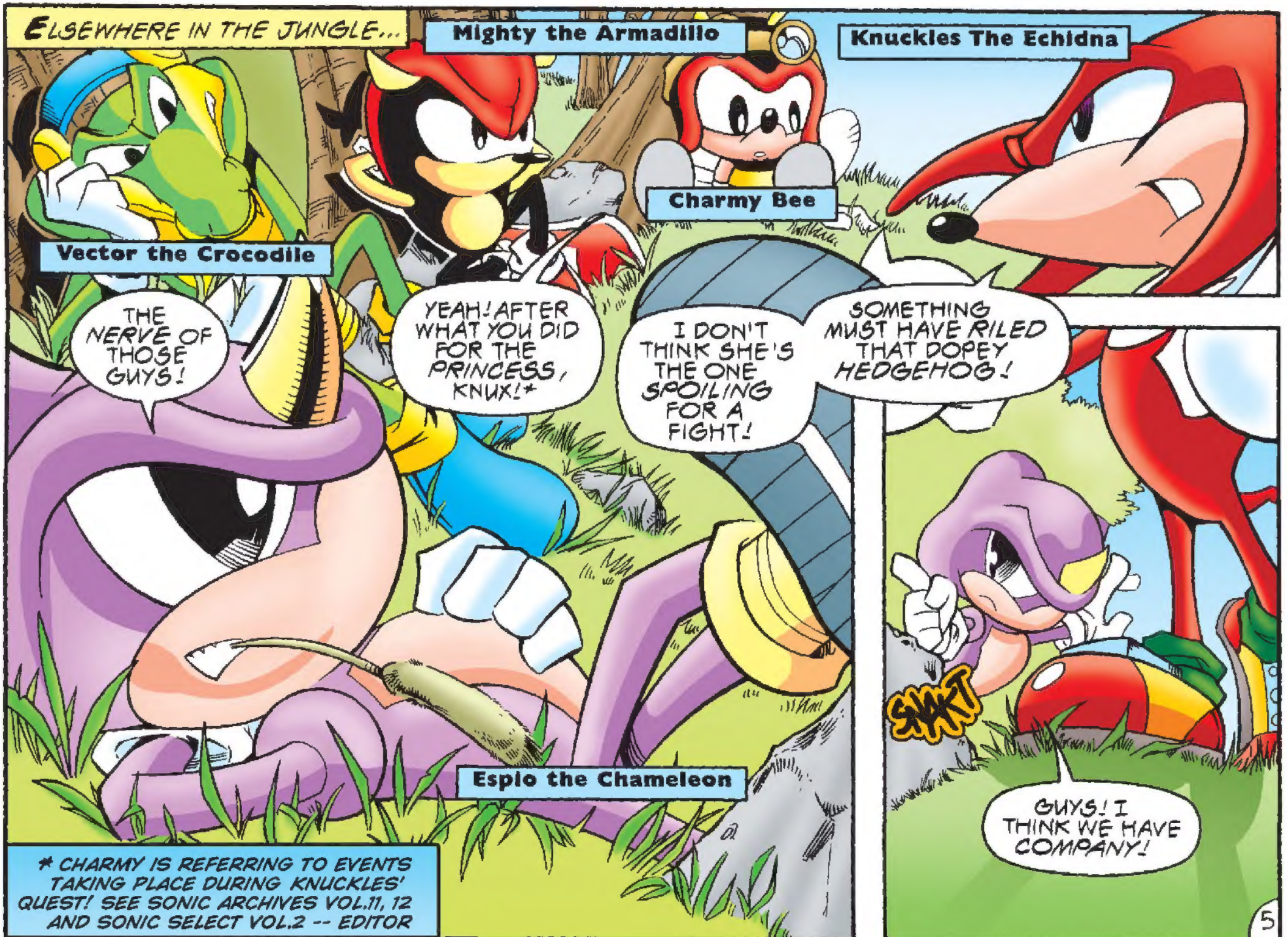
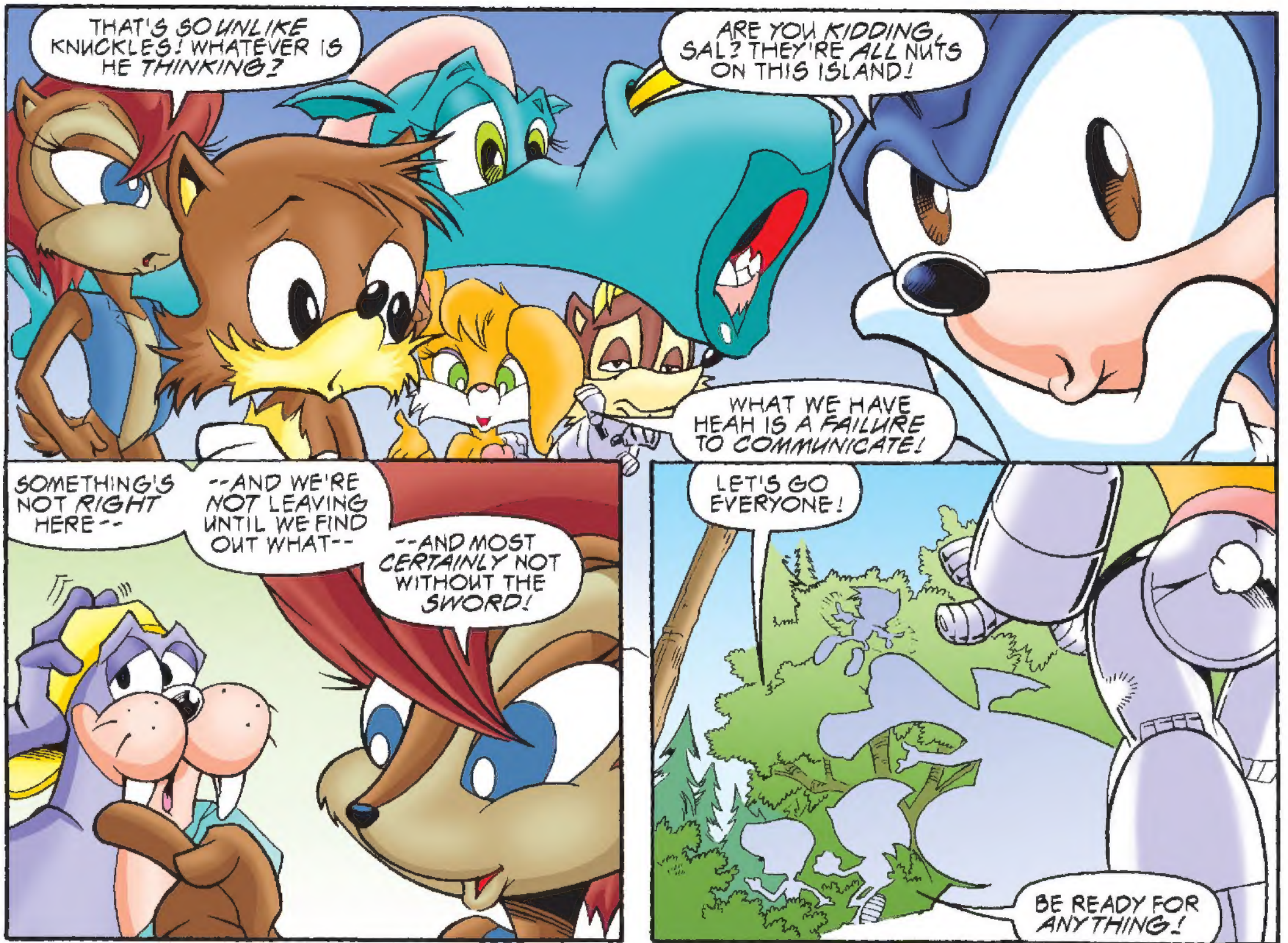




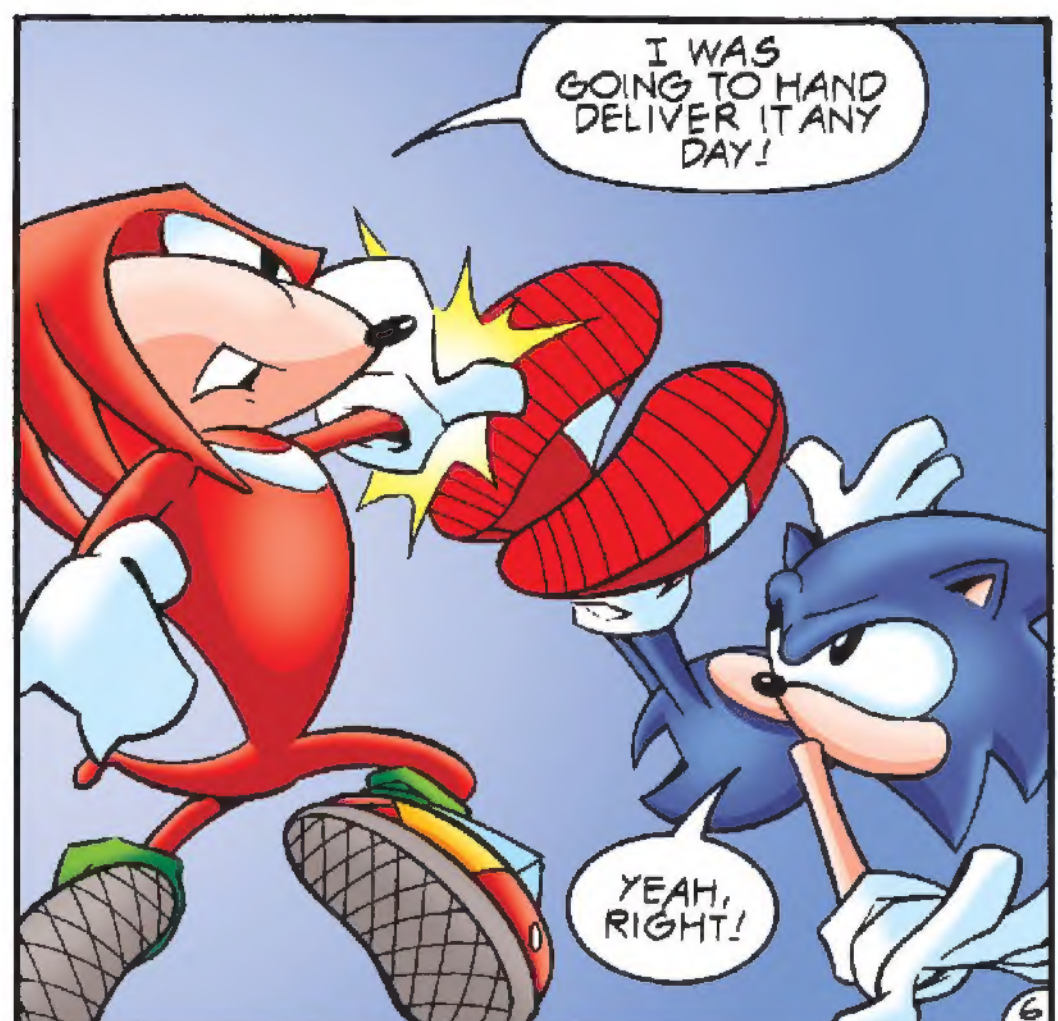
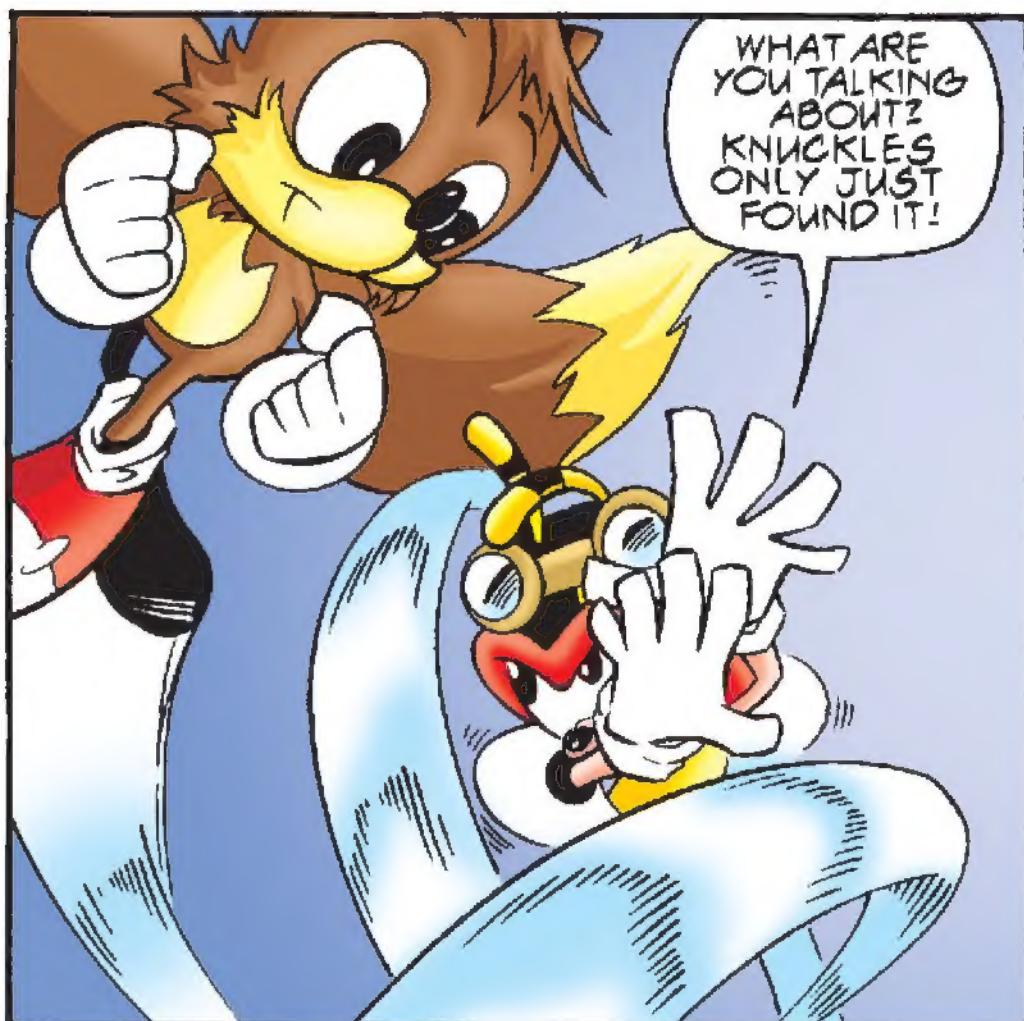
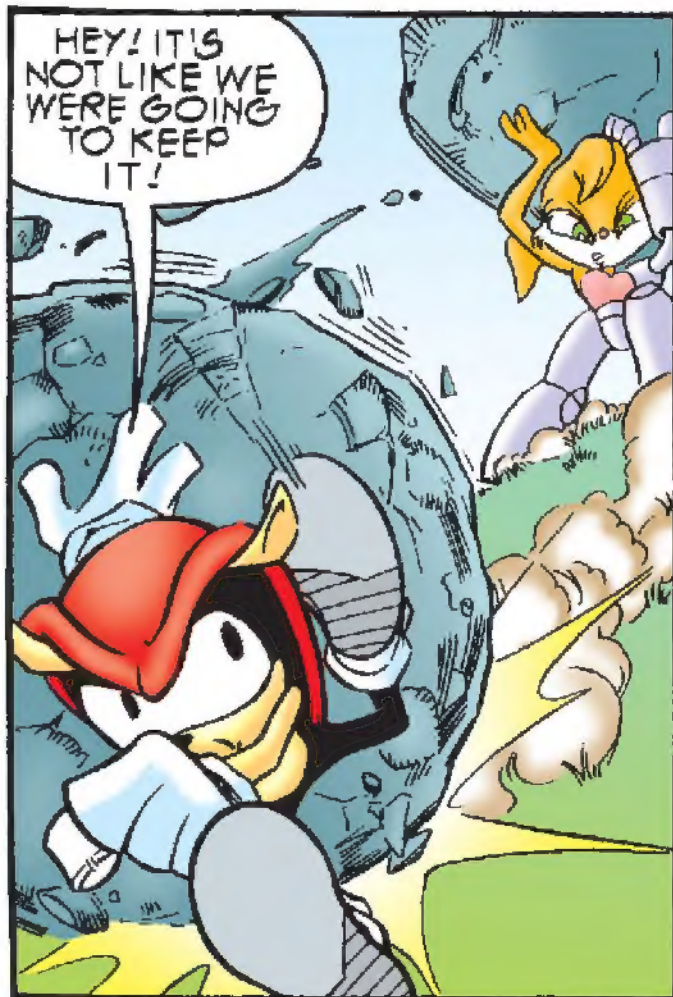
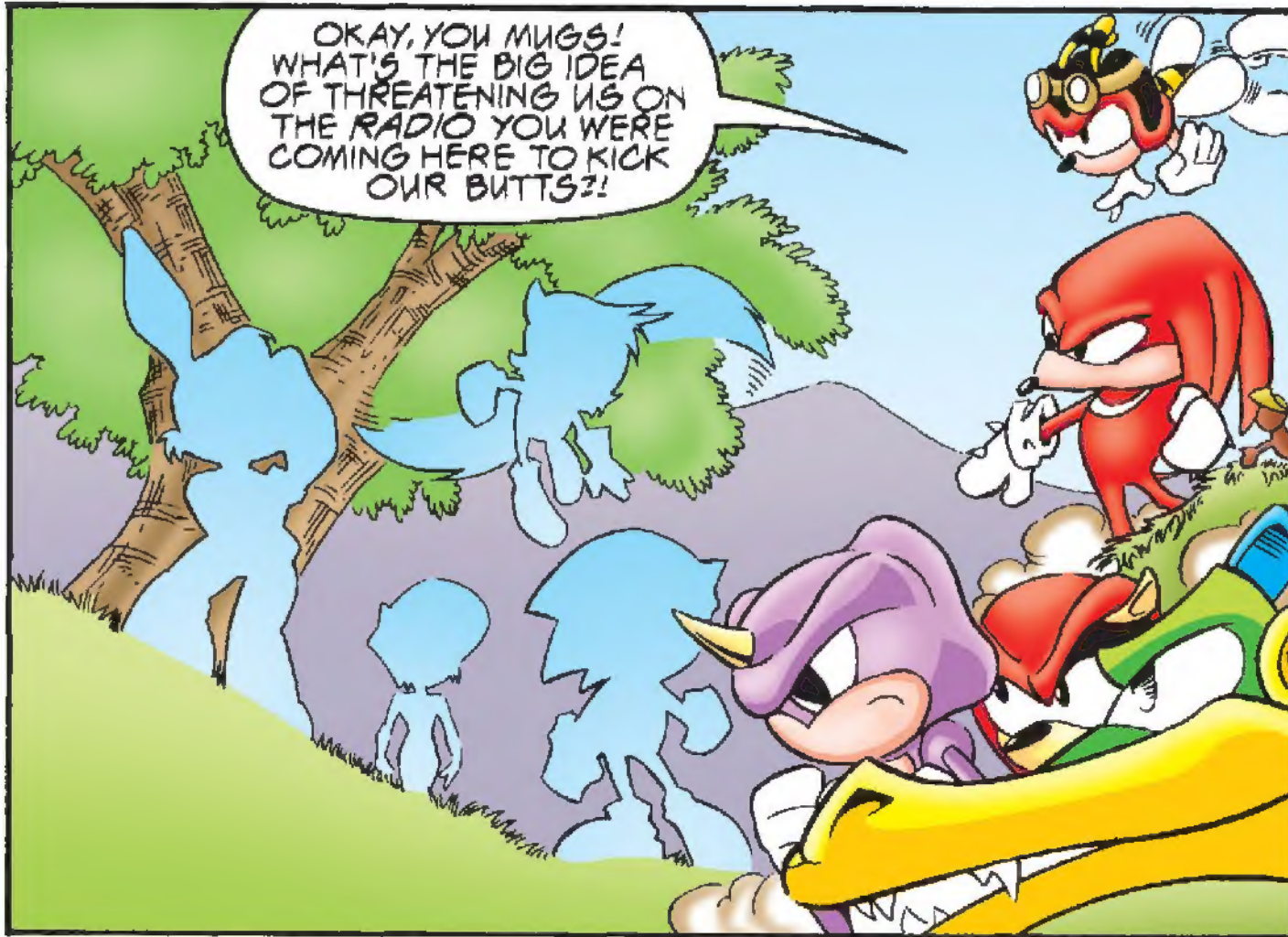




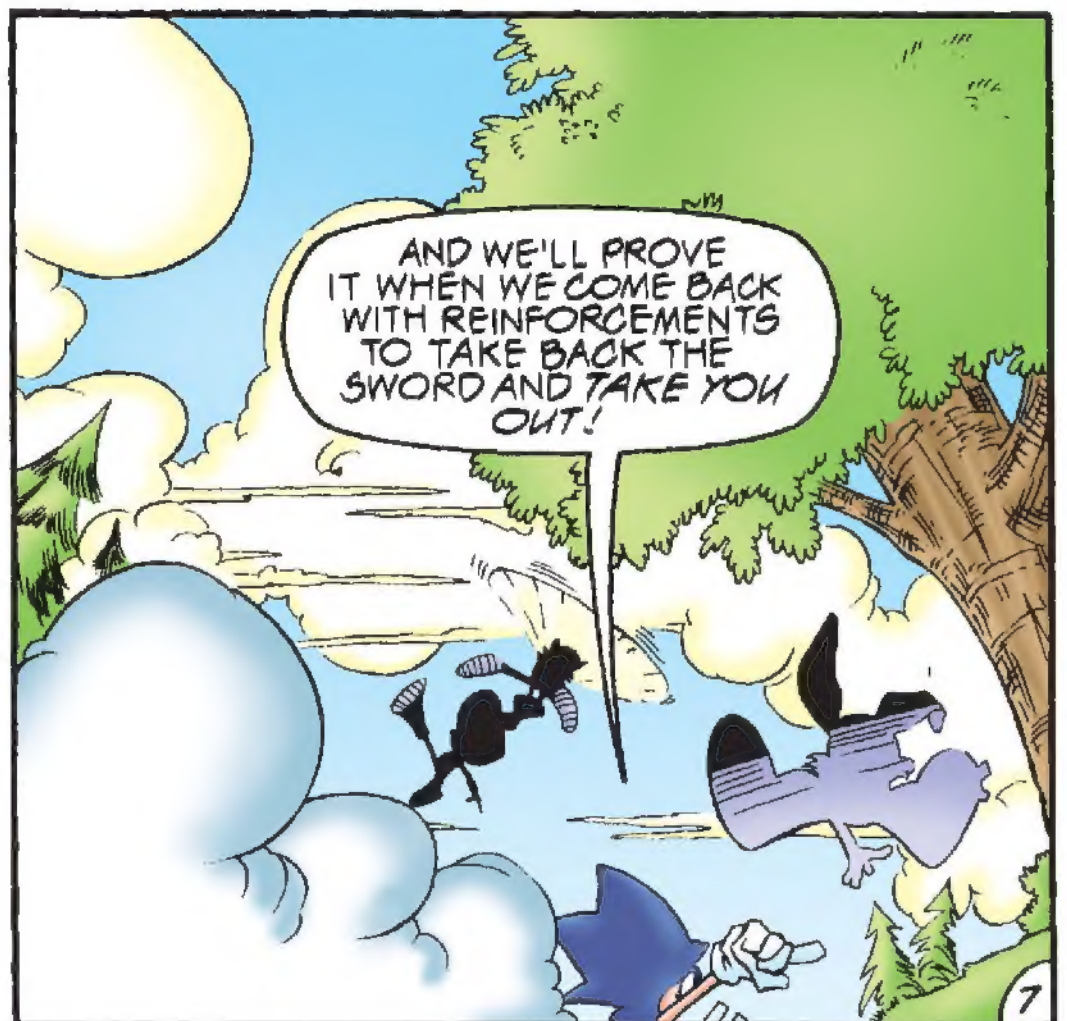














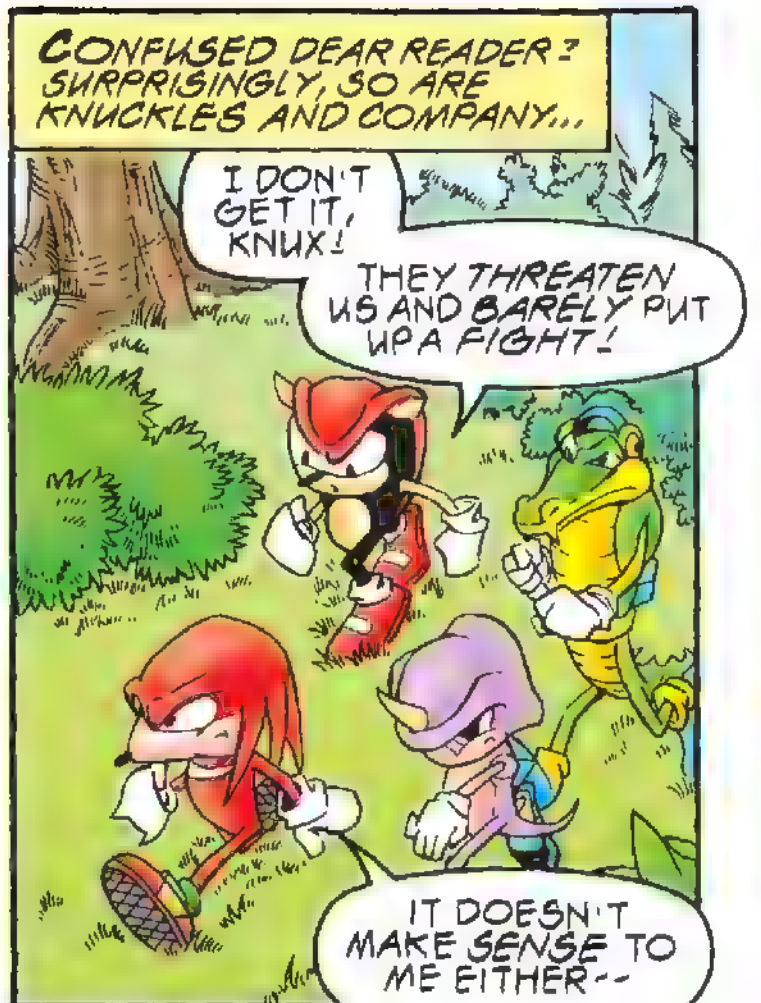


YOU THINK THAT CONVINCED THEM?

MORE THAN DID THE TRICK!

I CAN'T WAIT FOR THE REAL FUN TO START!

Heh Heh-- YEAH!



CONFUSED DEAR READER? SURPRISINGLY, SO ARE KNUCKLES AND COMPANY...

I DON'T GET IT, KNUX!

THEY THREATEN US AND BARELY PUT UP A FIGHT!

IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE TO ME EITHER--



ARCHIMEDES!

I HATE WHEN YOU DO THAT!



I CAME TO WARN YOU, KNUCKLES!

THINGS AREN'T WHAT THEY SEEM!

YOU BET THEY AREN'T!



AND WE'RE GONNA FIND OUT WHY--RIGHT HERE--RIGHT NOW!

END OF PART ONE.

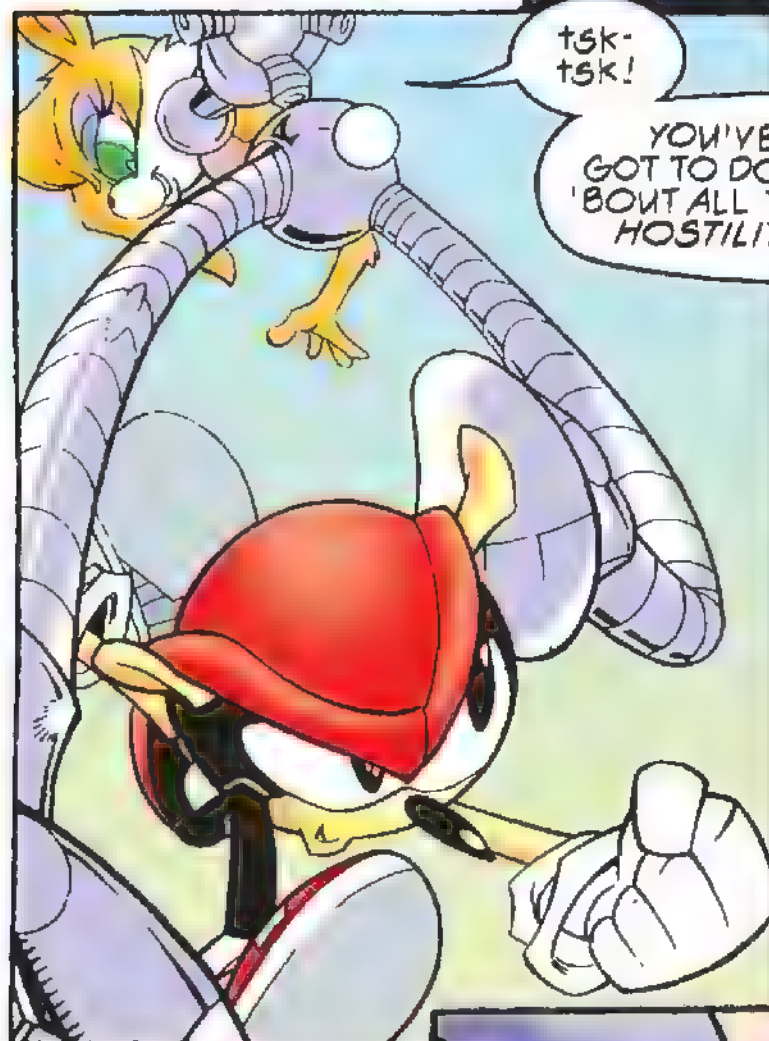
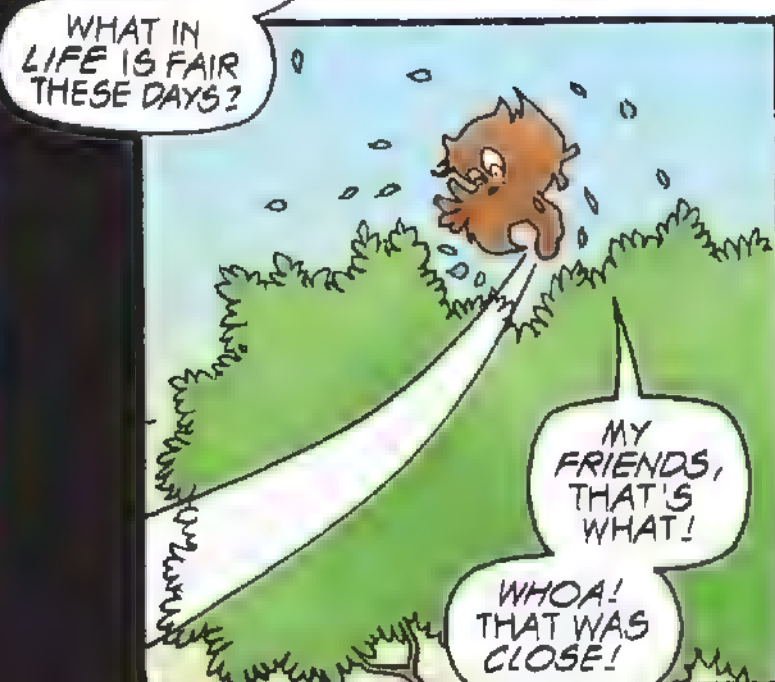


# BATTLE ROYAL

PART TWO





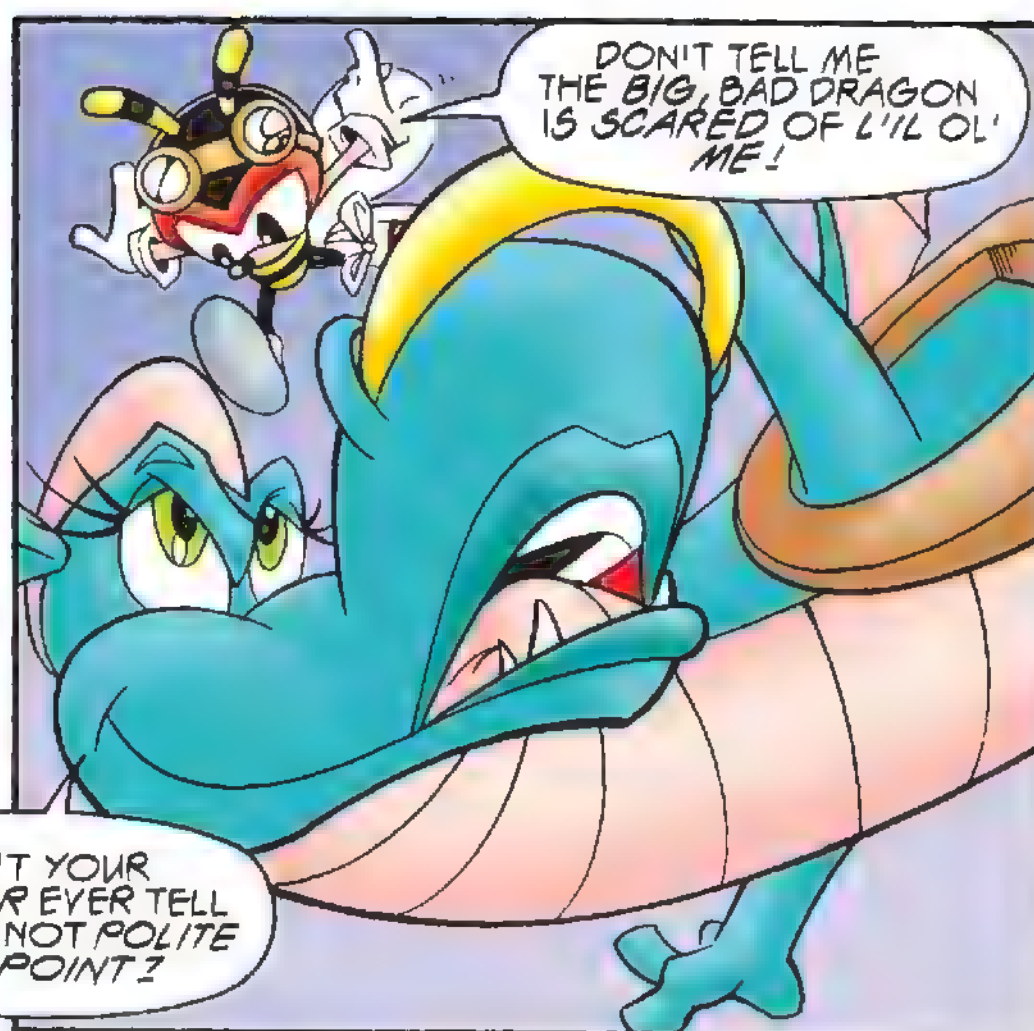


YOU'VE REALLY GOT TO DO SOMETHIN' 'BOUT ALL THAT PENT-UP HOSTILITY, SUH-GAH!

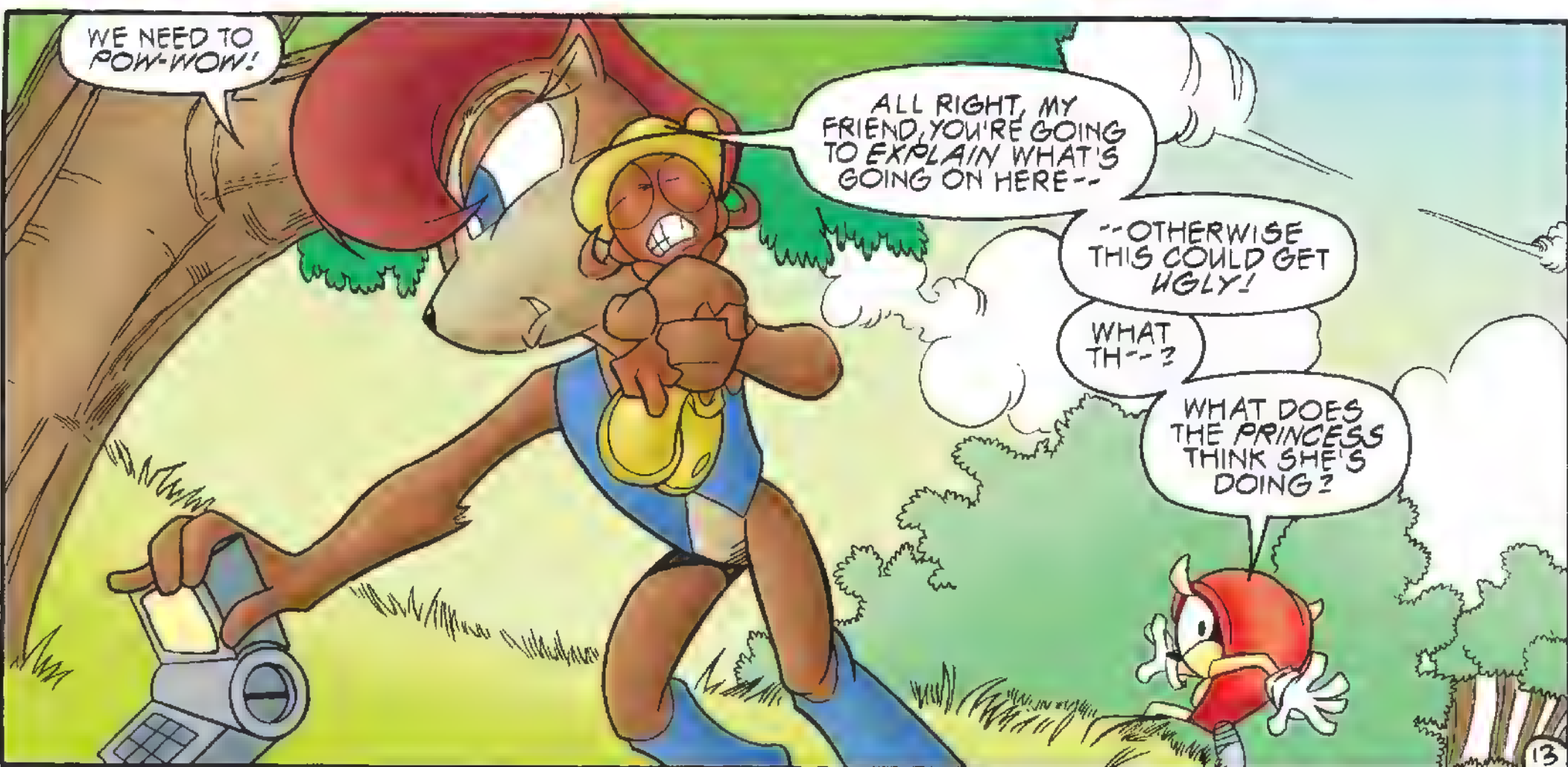
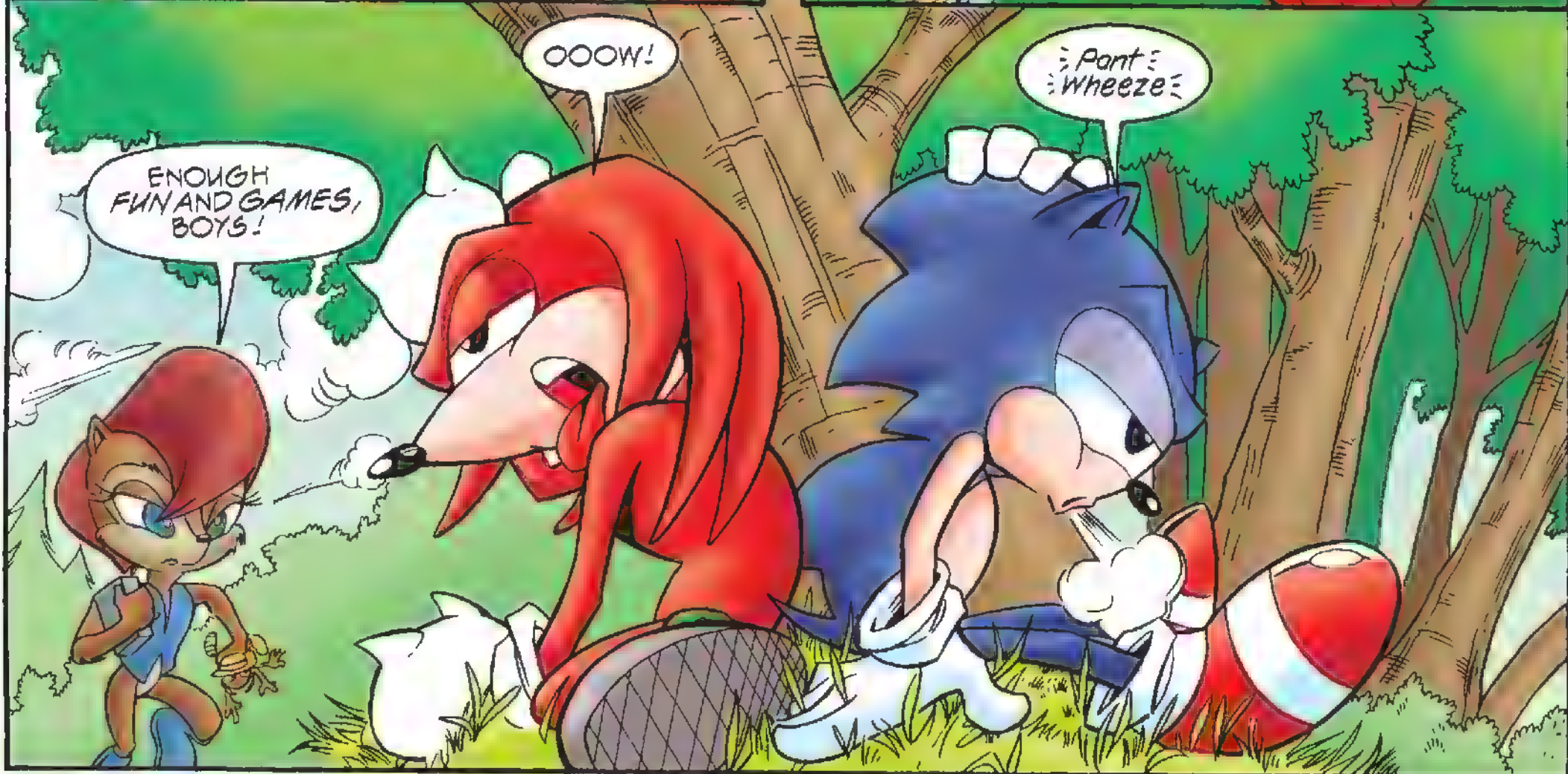
TAILS AND BUNNIE MIGHT HAVE THEIR OWN SPECIAL ABILITIES--



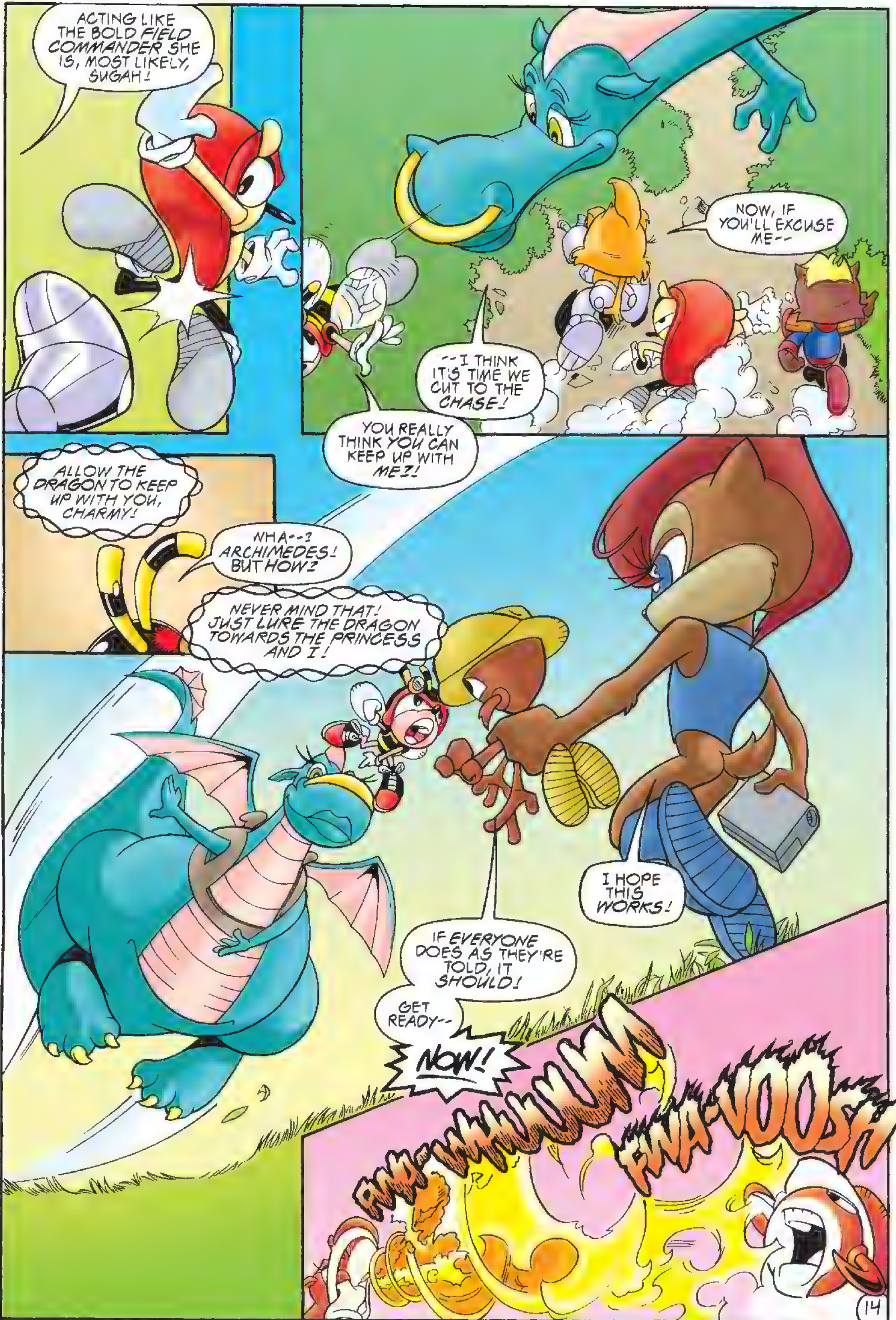












ACTING LIKE  
THE BOLD FIELD  
COMMANDER SHE  
IS, MOST LIKELY,  
SUGAR!

NOW, IF  
YOU'LL EXCUSE  
ME--

--I THINK  
IT'S TIME WE  
CUT TO THE  
CHASE!

YOU REALLY  
THINK YOU CAN  
KEEP UP WITH  
ME?!

ALLOW THE  
DRAGON TO KEEP  
UP WITH YOU,  
CHARMY!

WHA--?  
ARCHIMEDES!  
BUT HOW?

NEVER MIND THAT!  
JUST LURE THE DRAGON  
TOWARDS THE PRINCESS  
AND I!

I HOPE  
THIS  
WORKS!

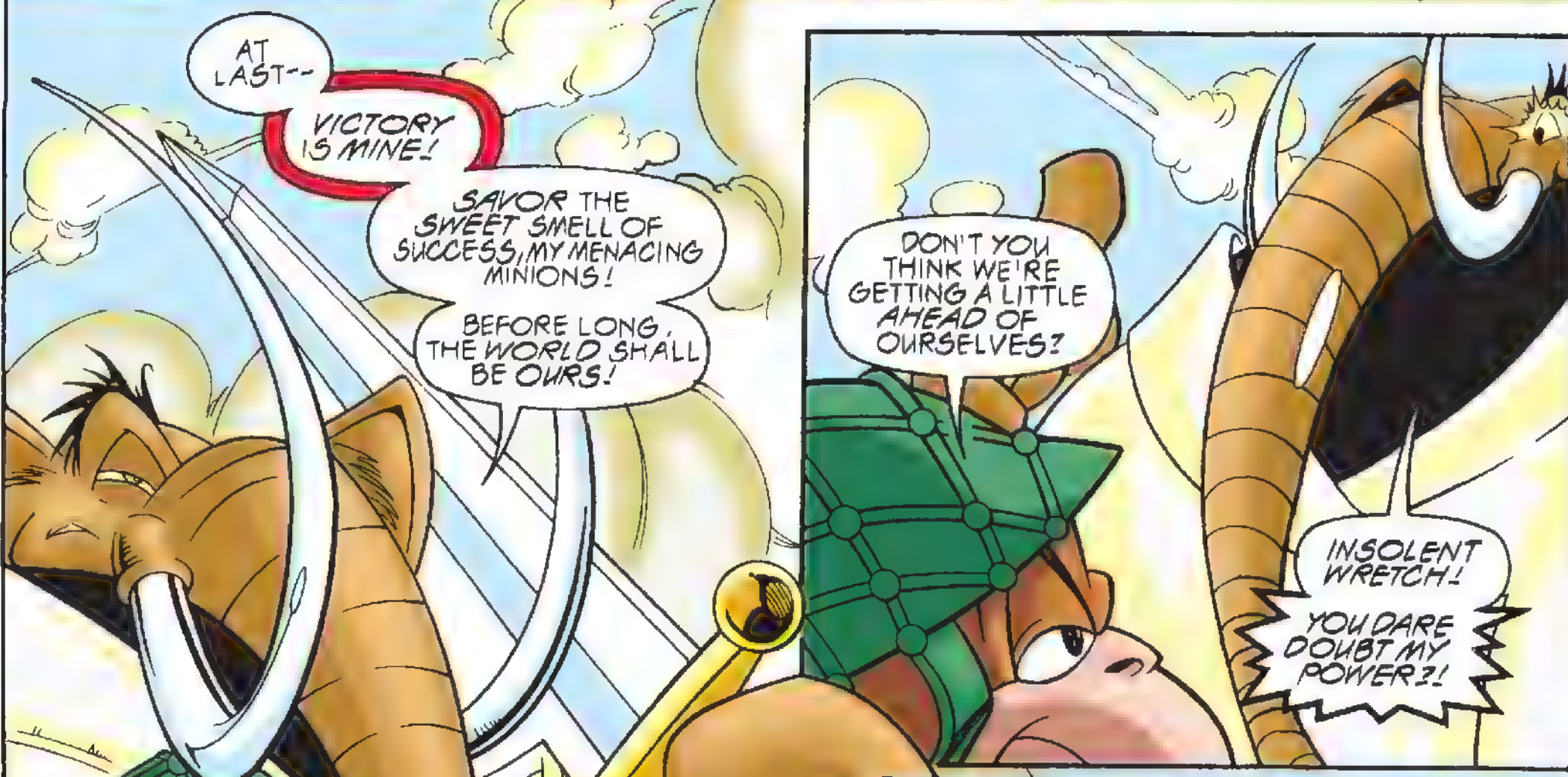
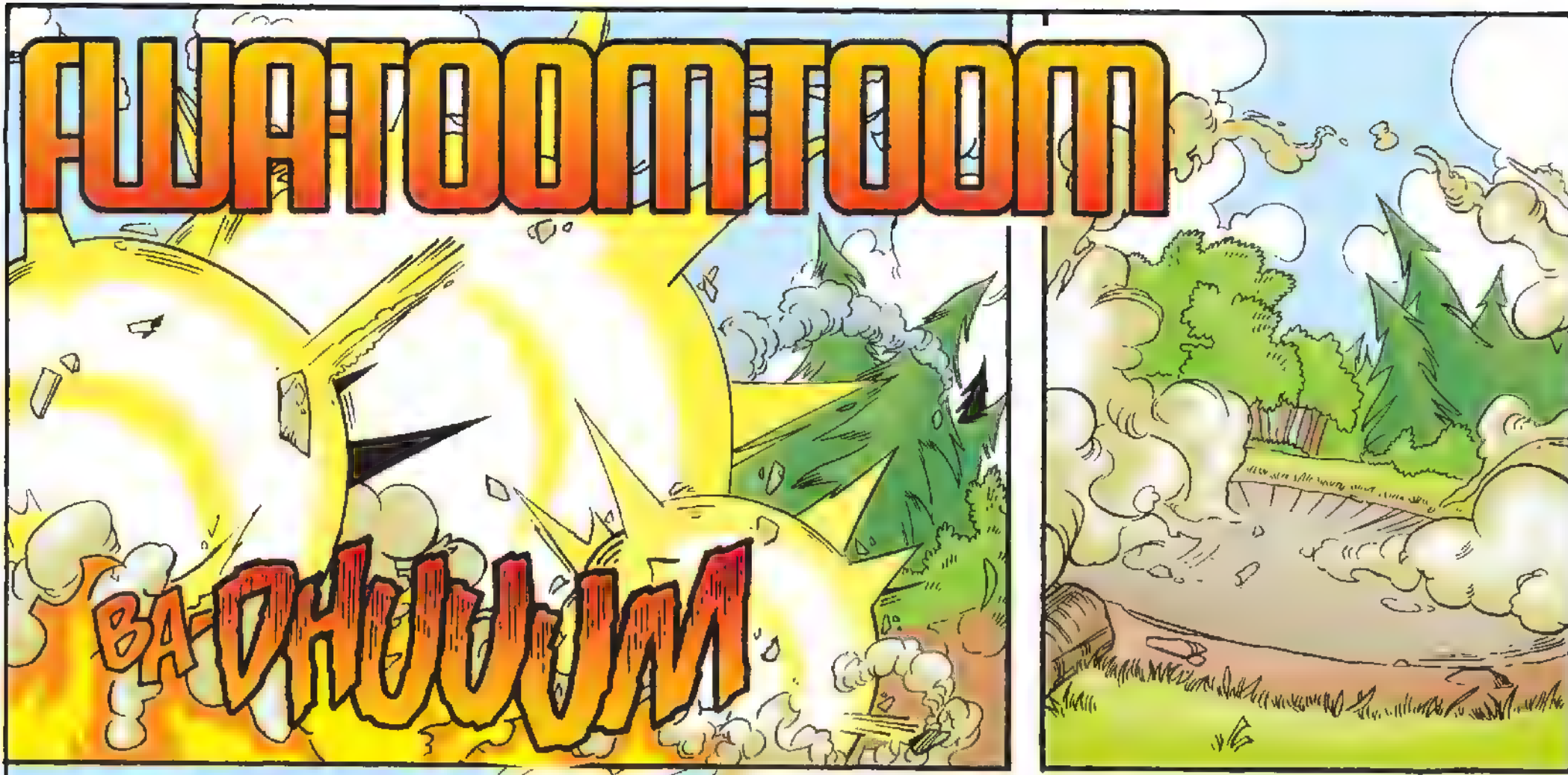
IF EVERYONE  
DOES AS THEY'RE  
TOLD, IT  
SHOULD!

GET  
READY--

**NOW!**

**BOOM!**





Mammoth Mogul

Sgt. Simian

Lightning Lynx

Flying Frog

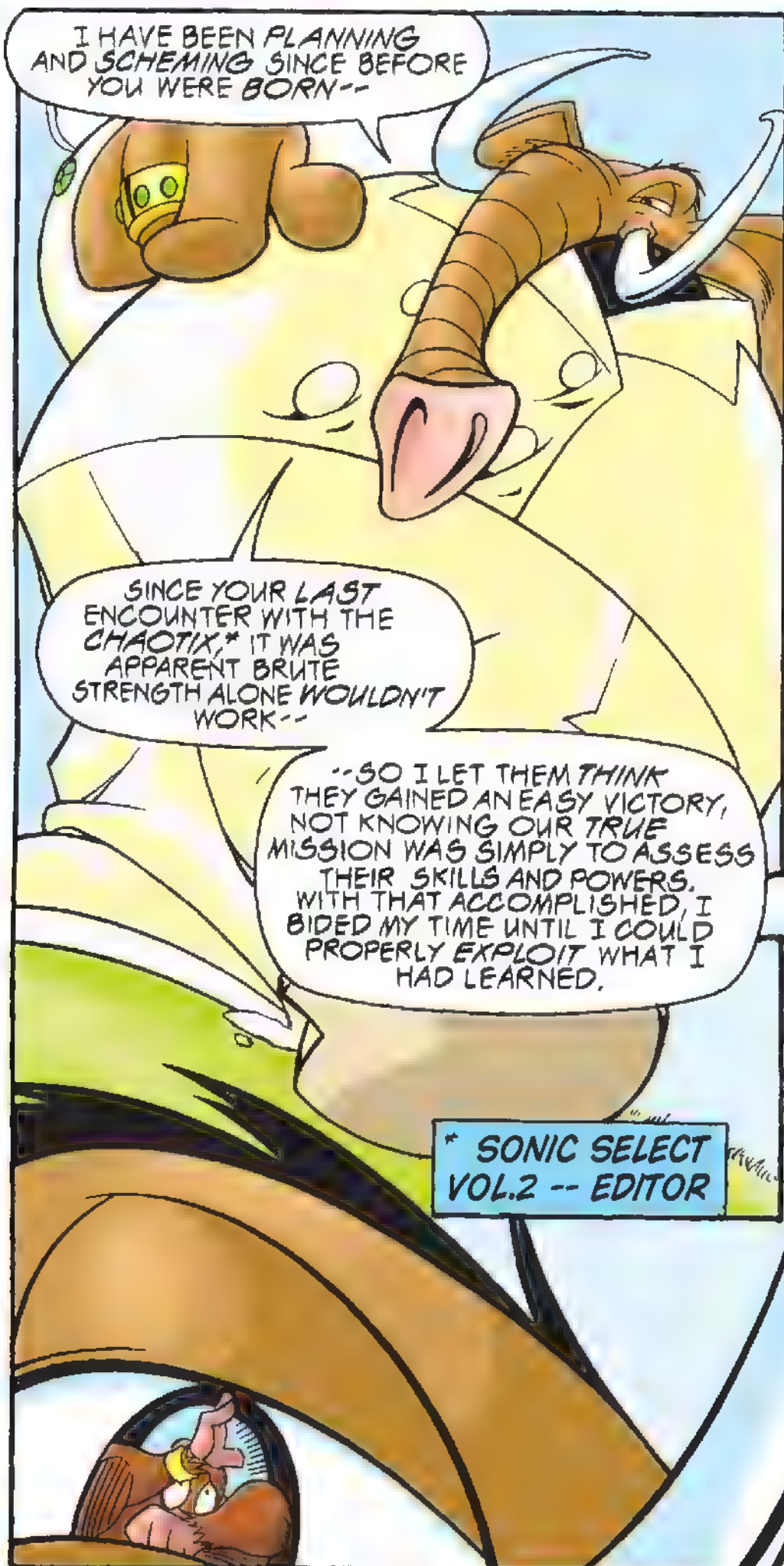
Predator Hawk





PERHAPS A  
LITTLE REMINDER  
IS NEEDED!

I MAY NOT BE AT  
THE PEAK OF MY ABILITIES,  
BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN  
I CAN'T HANDLE THE  
LIKES OF YOU!

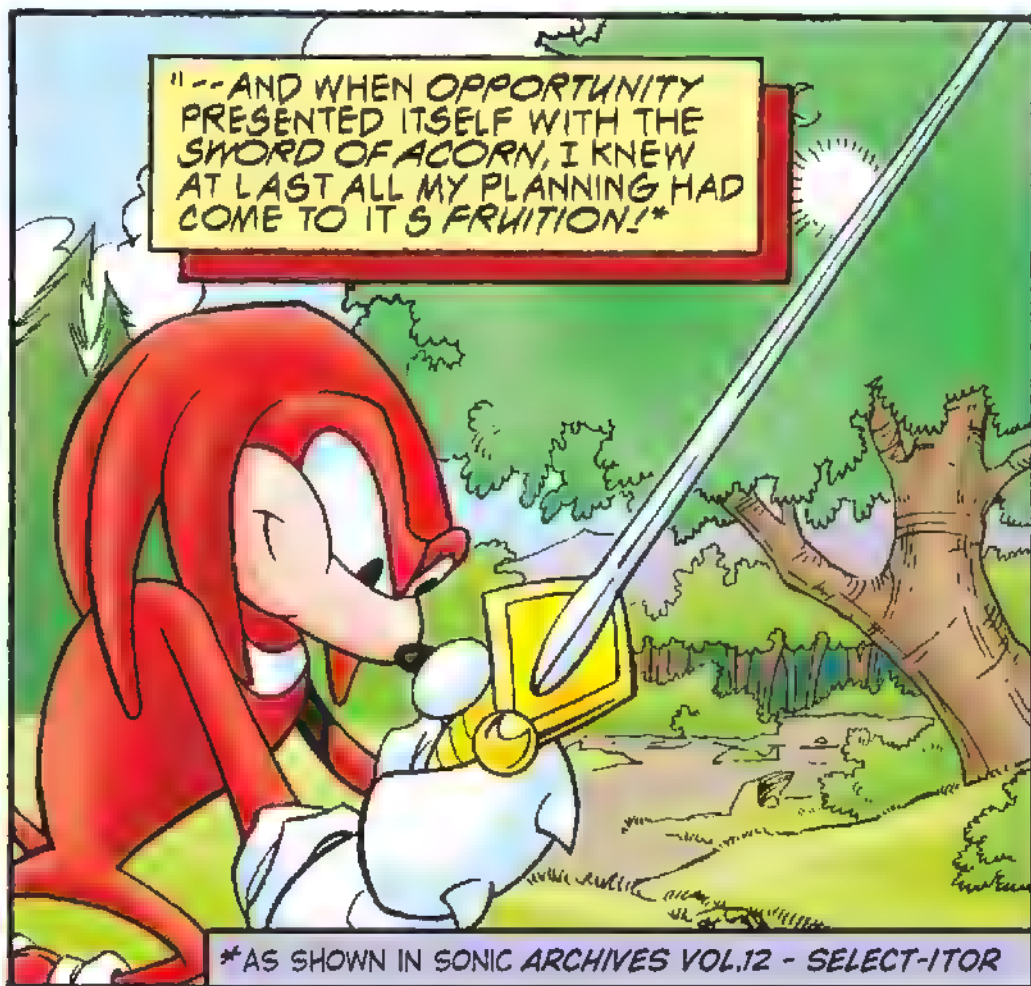


I HAVE BEEN PLANNING  
AND SCHEMING SINCE BEFORE  
YOU WERE BORN--

SINCE YOUR LAST  
ENCOUNTER WITH THE  
CHAOTIX,\* IT WAS  
APPARENT BRUTE  
STRENGTH ALONE WOULDN'T  
WORK--

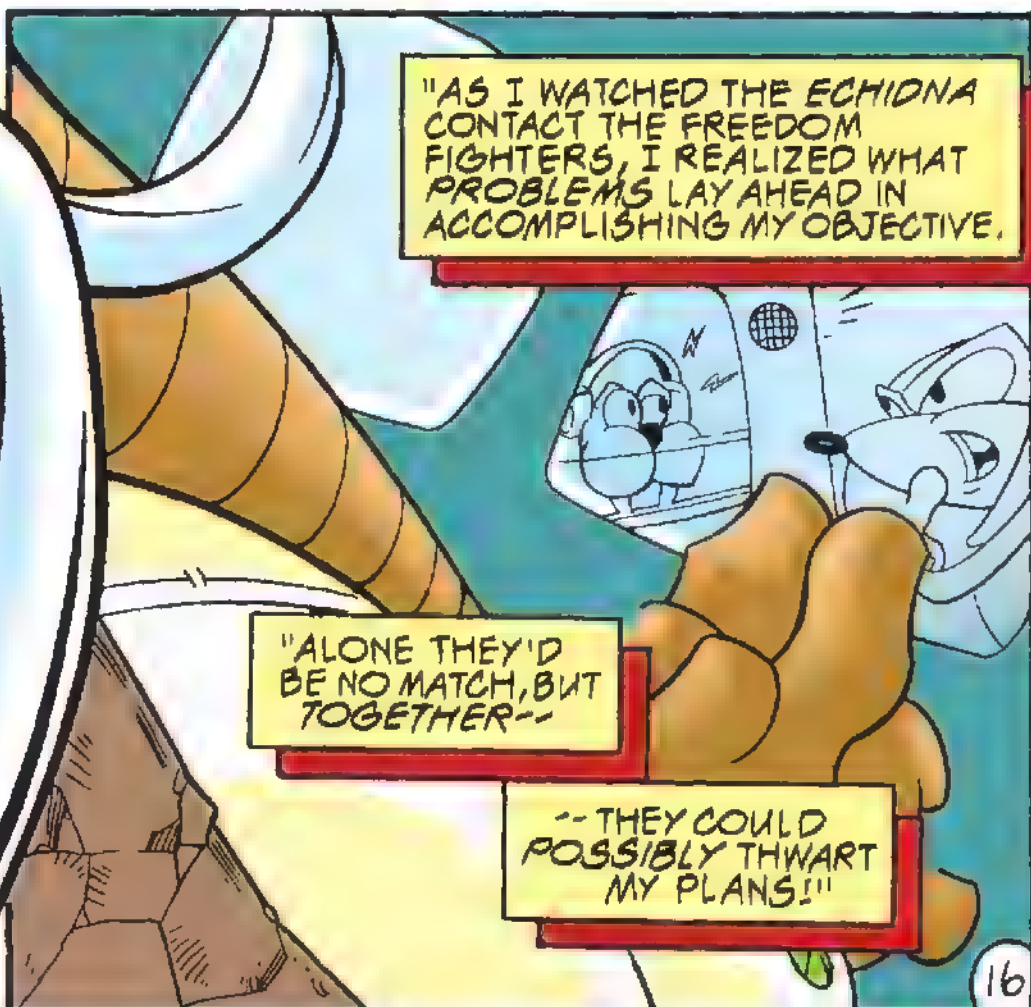
--SO I LET THEM THINK  
THEY GAINED AN EASY VICTORY,  
NOT KNOWING OUR TRUE  
MISSION WAS SIMPLY TO ASSESS  
THEIR SKILLS AND POWERS.  
WITH THAT ACCOMPLISHED, I  
BID MY TIME UNTIL I COULD  
PROPERLY EXPLOIT WHAT I  
HAD LEARNED.

\* SONIC SELECT  
VOL.2 -- EDITOR



"--AND WHEN OPPORTUNITY  
PRESENTED ITSELF WITH THE  
SWORD OF ACORN, I KNEW  
AT LAST ALL MY PLANNING HAD  
COME TO ITS FRUITION!\*

\*AS SHOWN IN SONIC ARCHIVES VOL.12 - SELECT-ITOR



"AS I WATCHED THE ECHIDNA  
CONTACT THE FREEDOM  
FIGHTERS, I REALIZED WHAT  
PROBLEMS LAY AHEAD IN  
ACCOMPLISHING MY OBJECTIVE.

"ALONE THEY'D  
BE NO MATCH, BUT  
TOGETHER--

--THEY COULD  
POSSIBLY THWART  
MY PLANS!"



"THAT'S WHY I SEIZED THE MOMENT  
MAKING USE OF MY VAST PSYCHIC  
ABILITIES TO ALTER THE REALITIES  
OF MY UNWITTING PAWNS..."

"WHAT NEITHER THE WALRUS  
OR ECHIDNA REALIZED WAS  
THAT THEY WERE WATCHING  
IMAGES GENERATED THROUGH  
MY THOUGHTWAVES..."

I CONTROL  
THE HORIZONTAL--  
I CONTROL THE  
VERTICAL--

--AND THE ISLAND'S  
UNDER SIEGE AGAIN, SO  
FOR NOW...WE'RE KEEPING  
THE SWORD!

HOLD FAST!  
WE'RE ON OUR WAY  
TO HELP!

... AND YOU'VE TAKEN  
TOO LONG TO RETURN  
THE SWORD-- WE'RE  
COMING FOR IT AND  
YOU!

WHAT ARE  
YOU JABBERING  
ABOUT?

"THERE WAS STILL DANGER THAT COOLER  
HEADS WOULD PREVAIL, SO I CREATED THE  
ILLUSION OF THE FEARSOME FOURSOME  
AS MEMBERS OF THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS  
AND THE CHAOTIX, IN ORDER TO FAN THE  
FLAMES OF MISTRUST BETWEEN THE  
OPPOSING SIDES..."



--ALLOWING US  
TO WATCH FROM THE  
SIDELINES WHILE  
THEY BATTLED AMONGST  
THEMSELVES!

YEP! THAT  
WAS QUITE  
THE PLAN,  
MAN!

THAT  
VOICE--!

"HAVING BAITED THE HEDGEHOG AND  
FRIENDS, WE THEN MADE THE CHAOTIX  
BELIEVE THE WORST CONCERNING THE  
FREEDOM FIGHTERS--"









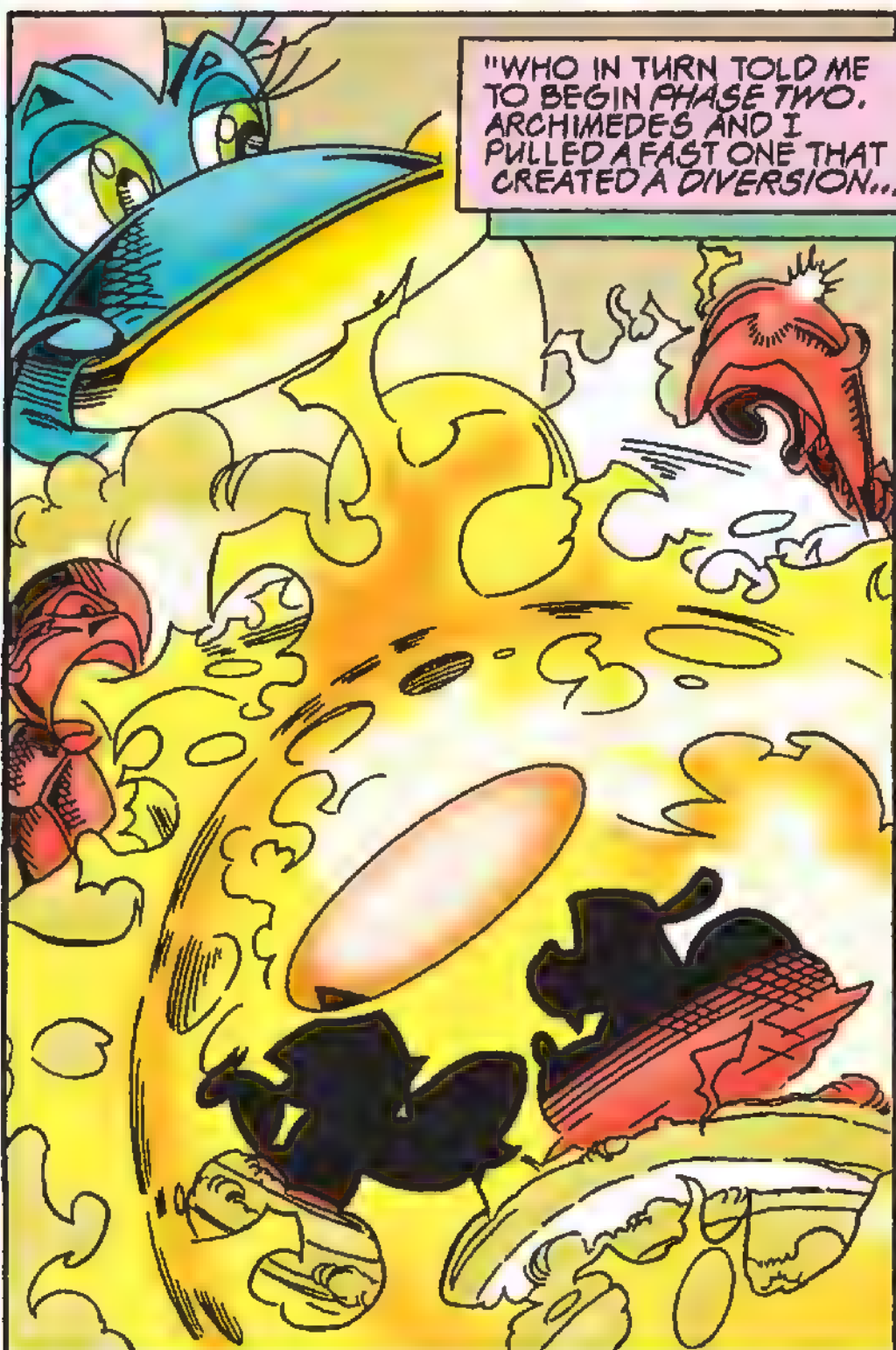
"YOU SAID IT YOURSELF--  
'COOLER HEADS MIGHT  
PREVAIL!' ARCHIMEDES  
AND I KNEW SOMETHING  
STUNK HERE..."

"...AND BELIEVING THE  
REAL ENEMY TO BE  
WATCHING, WE PUT ON  
A LITTLE PERFORMANCE  
TO COVER OUR PLAN!"



"USING POWERS  
YOU PROBABLY DIDN'T  
KNOW ARCHIMEDES  
HAS\*, HE COVERTLY  
CONTACTED CHARMY  
TO BEGIN PHASE  
ONE..."

\*TELEPATHY MAYBE?-- EDITOR



"WHO IN TURN TOLD ME  
TO BEGIN PHASE TWO.  
ARCHIMEDES AND I  
PULLED A FAST ONE THAT  
CREATED A DIVERSION..."

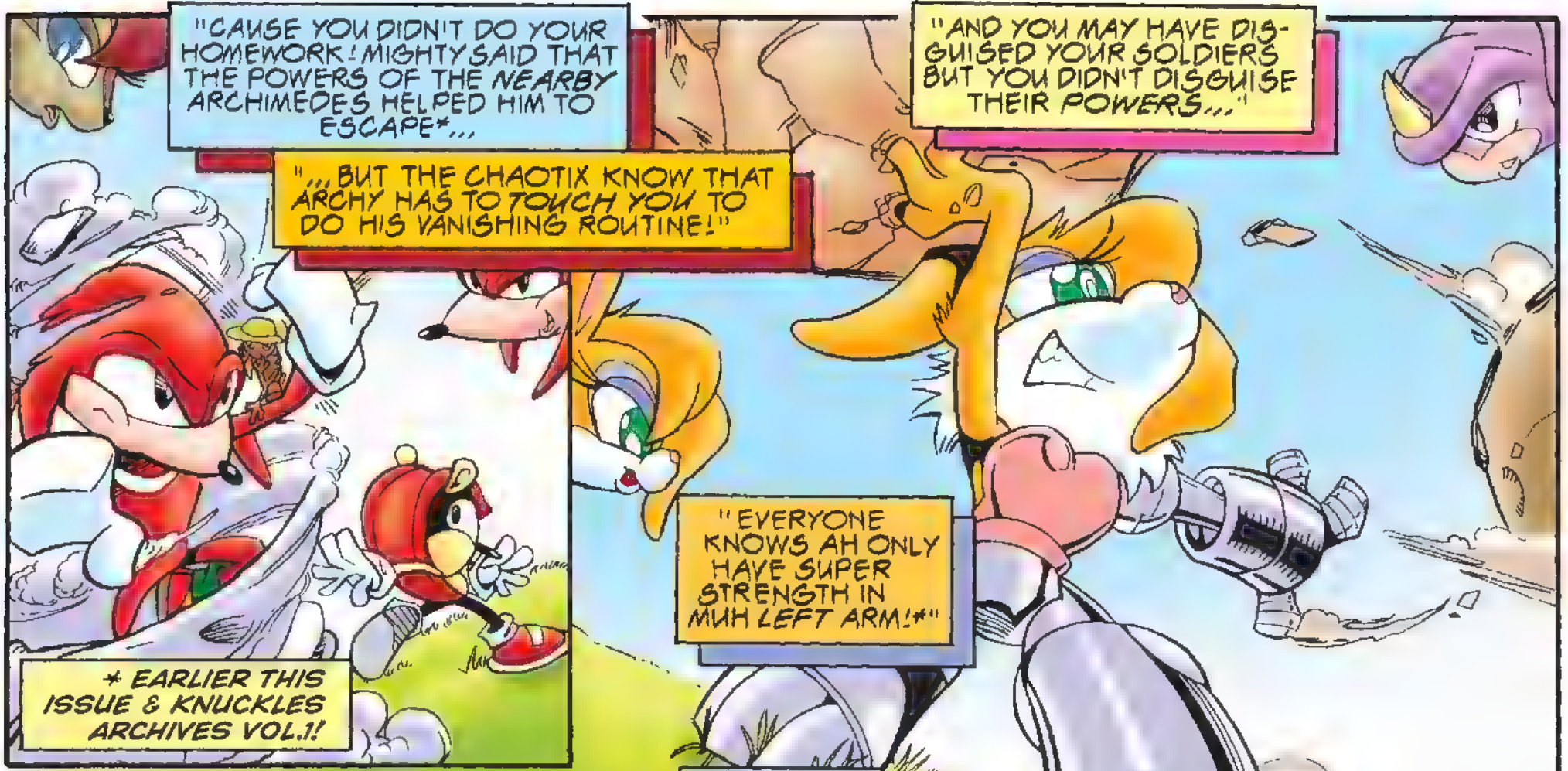


AND WHILE THE  
KEWL FLAMES MADE  
US LOOK LIKE WE  
WERE TAKIN' THE  
HEAT, ARCHY TELE-  
PORTED US TO  
SAFETY...

"...WHICH GAVE US  
TIME TO FIGURE OUT  
BOTH OUR GANGS WERE  
TAKING THE RAP FOR  
YOUR HOMIES!"

AND HOW IS  
IT YOU CAME UPON  
THAT BRIEF FLASH OF  
BRILLIANCE?





"CAUSE YOU DIDN'T DO YOUR HOMEWORK! MIGHTY SAID THAT THE POWERS OF THE NEARBY ARCHIMEDES HELPED HIM TO ESCAPE\*..."

"AND YOU MAY HAVE DISGUISED YOUR SOLDIERS BUT YOU DIDN'T DISGUISE THEIR POWERS\*..."

"...BUT THE CHAOTIX KNOW THAT ARCHY HAS TO TOUCH YOU TO DO HIS VANISHING ROUTINE!"

"EVERYONE KNOWS AH ONLY HAVE SUPER STRENGTH IN MUH LEFT ARM!\*"

\* EARLIER THIS ISSUE & KNUCKLES ARCHIVES VOL.1!

\* TURN BACK 15 PAGES TO SEE FOR YOURSELF!



"AND WHILE YOUR GUY WAS QUICK, HE WAS NOWHERE NEAR THE SPEED OF THE BLUE DOOFBALL!\*"

\* ALSO EARLIER - ED



AND HOW COME ONLY FOUR OF SIX CHAOTIX ATTACKED US?!

AND HOW COME SEVEN F.F.'S LANDED BUT ONLY FOUR ATTACKED US?!

ALSO, NO WAY MIGHT WOULD HAVE ATTACKED ME WITHOUT TALKING FIRST --OR AT LEAST SAYING "HI"!

Y'SEE TALL, DARK AND HAIRY, WE'RE OLD PALS!\*

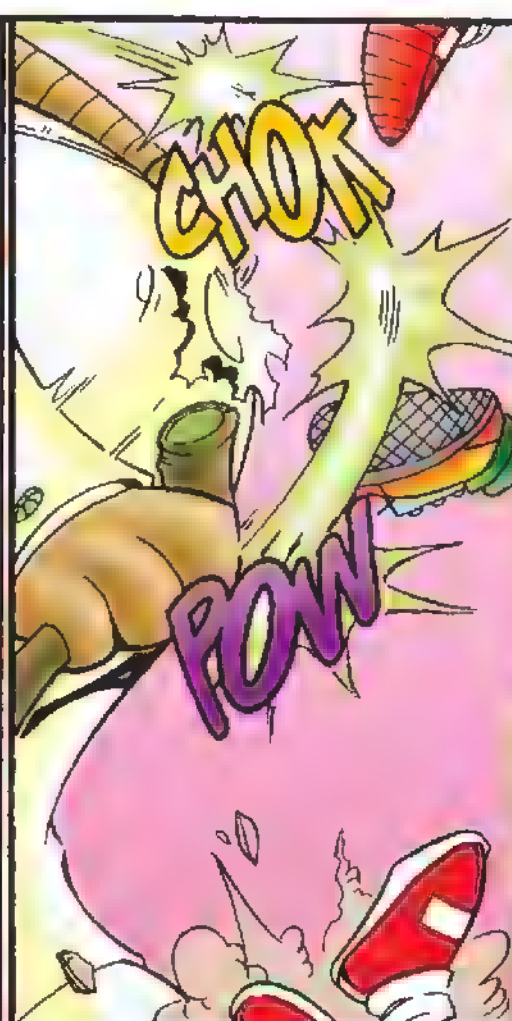
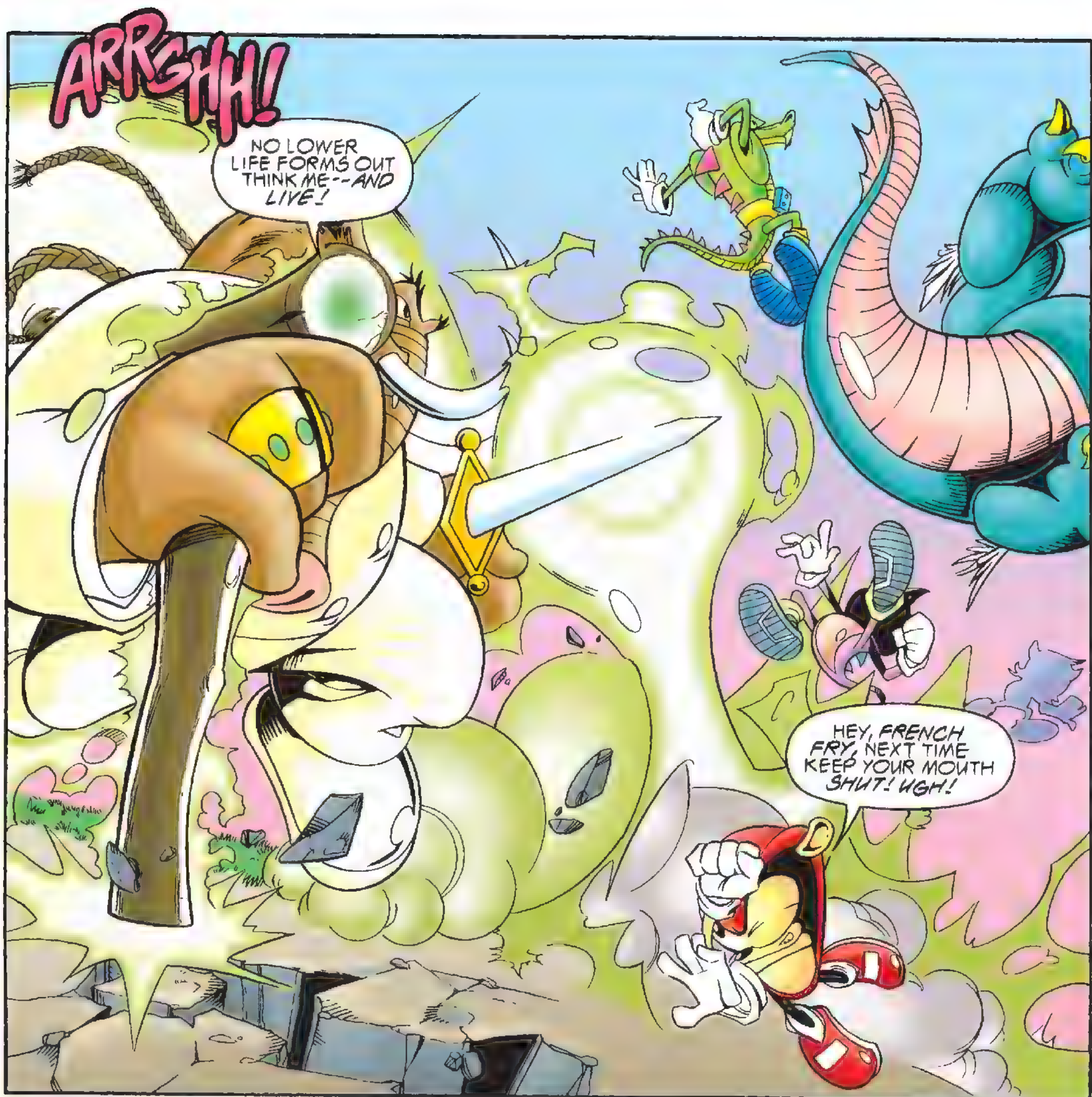
ZO, BIG JUMBO, YOU ARE NOT ONLY ZEE BIG PERSON, BUT ALSO ZEE BIG FOOL!

NOW THAT YOUR SCHEME IS KAPUT, HAND OVER ZEE SWORD AND YOU WON'T BE HURT!

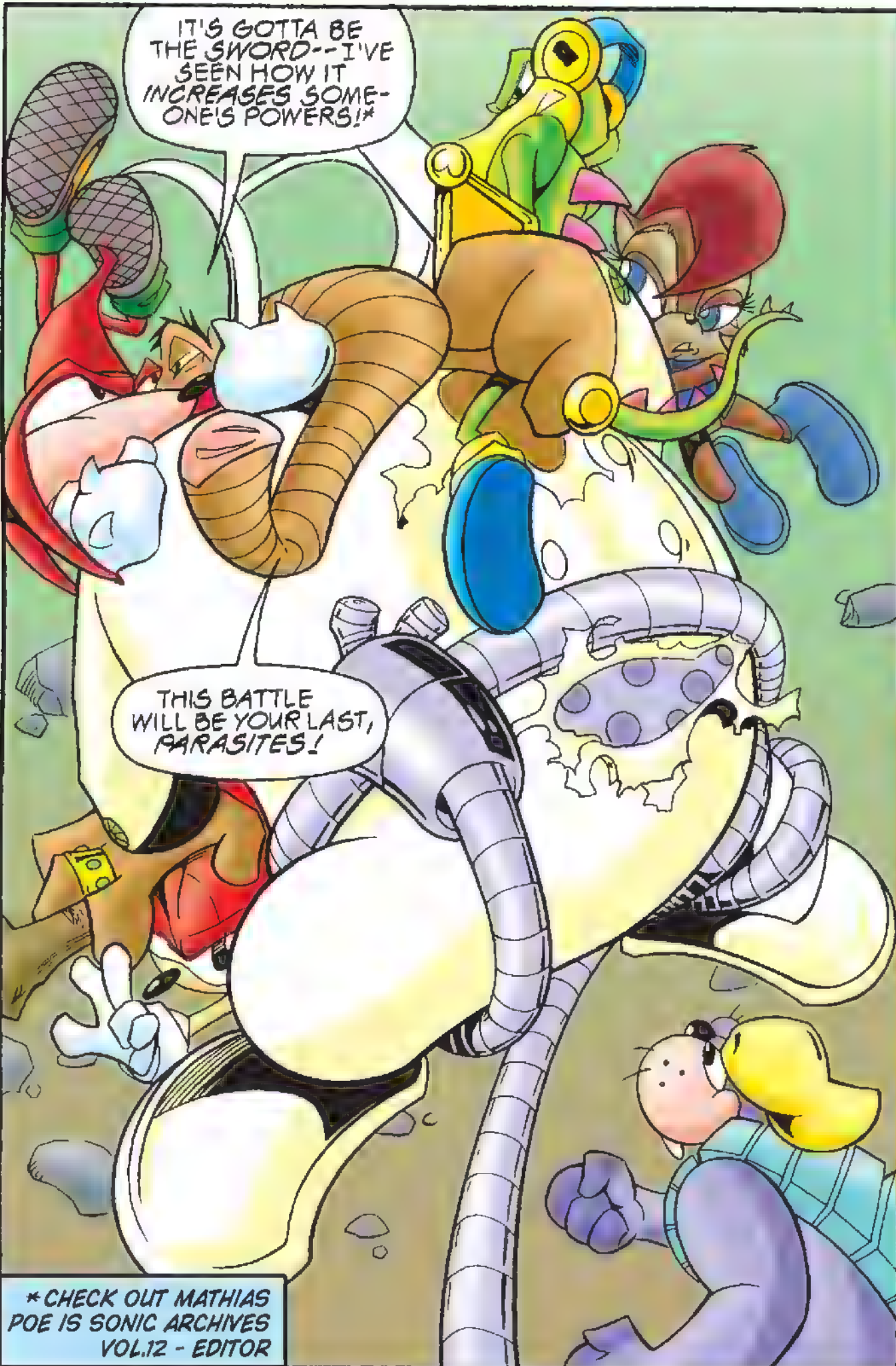
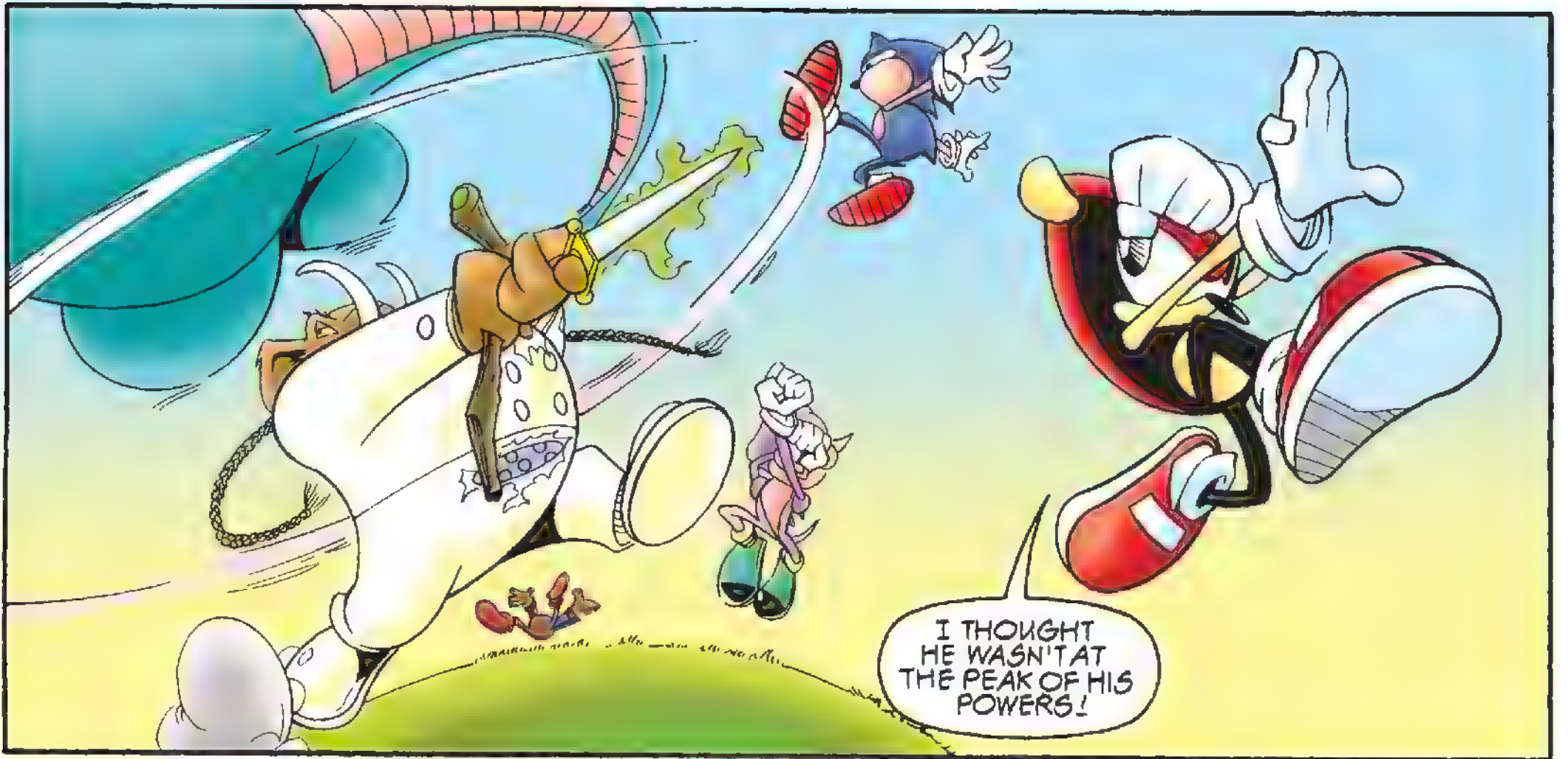


\* WHEN & WHERE DID THIS HAPPEN? CHECK OUT FUTURE SONIC ARCHIVES AND SELECT GN'S FOR THE STORY!









\*CHECK OUT MATHIAS  
POE IS SONIC ARCHIVES  
VOL.12 - EDITOR



CRASH

WOW! BRING TWO CHAOS EMERALDS TOGETHER...

AND THAT'S WHAT YOU GET... UTTER CHAOS!

PRETTY SMART-- TAKING A CHANCE ONE CHAOS EMERALD MIGHT BLOW UP ANOTHER!

IT WAS A DESPERATE GAMBLE AT BEST!

ALRIGHT! HE BLEW HIM OUT OF THE UNIVERSE!

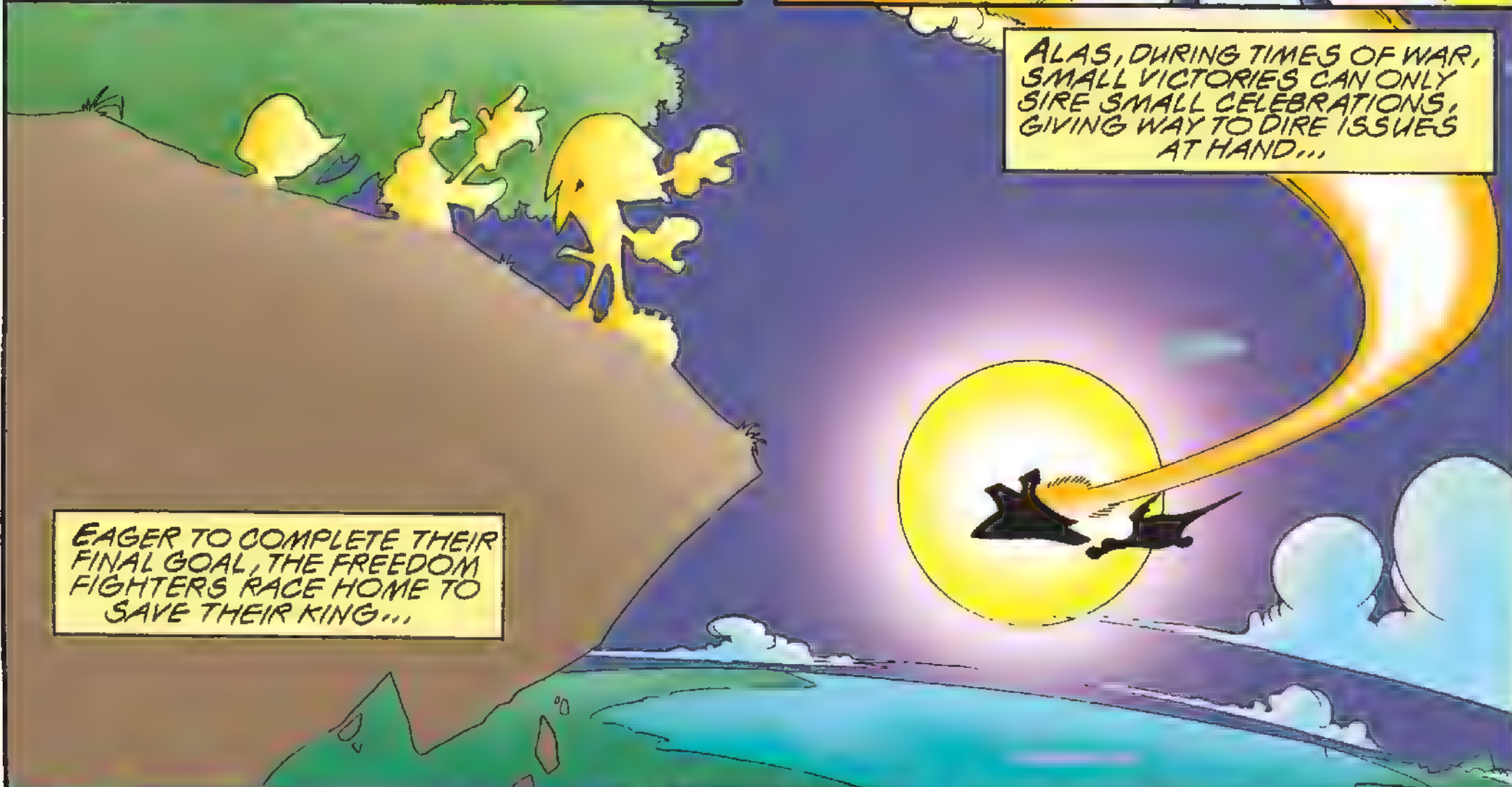
DON'T SWEAT IT, SHORTY, IT PAID OFF!

AND IT DID LEAVE US WITH THE SWORD, SO...

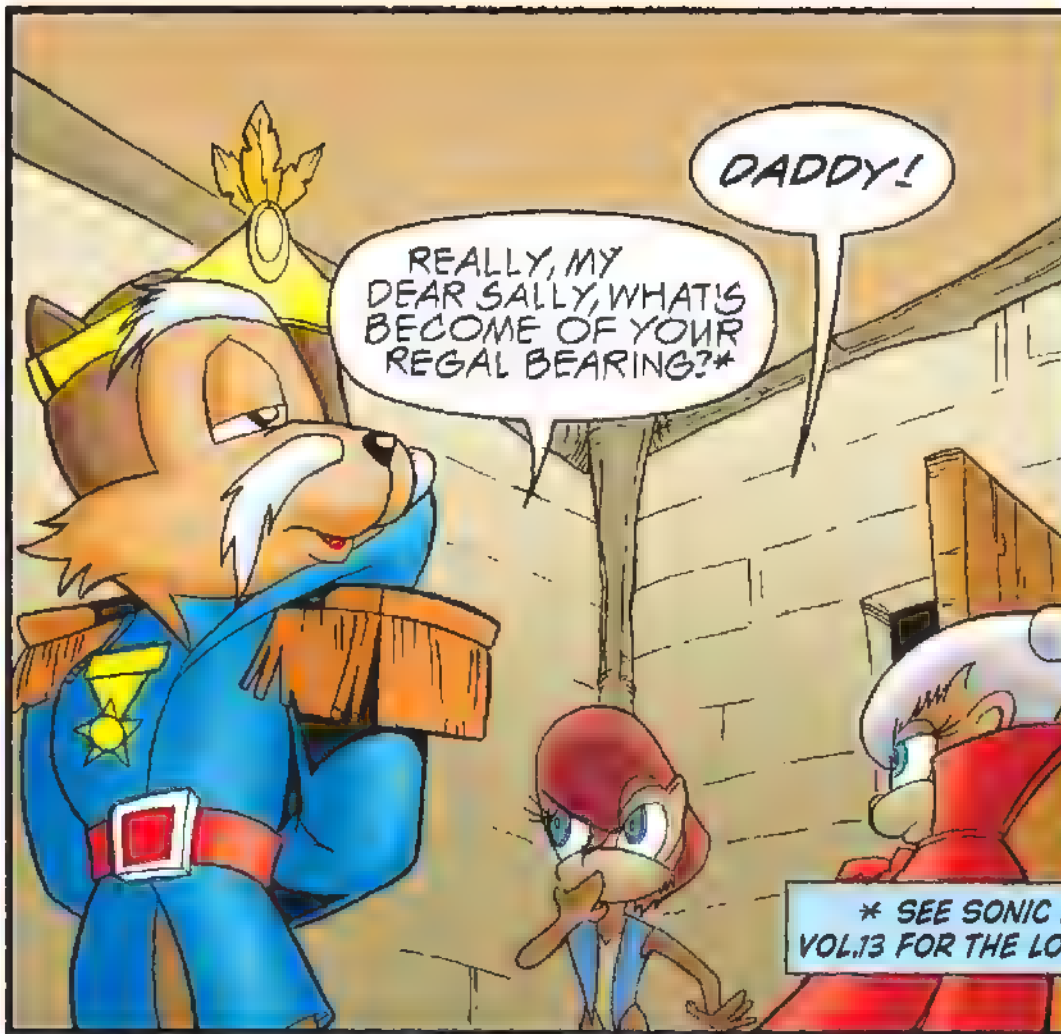
AS PER MY SOLEMN VOW, I HUMBL Y MAKE GOOD MY PROMISE!

AND FOR YOUR COURAGE AND FORTITUDE ON BEHALF OF THE REALM...









REALLY, MY DEAR SALLY, WHAT'S BECOME OF YOUR REGAL BEARING?\*

DADDY!

\* SEE SONIC ARCHIVES VOL.13 FOR THE LOW-DOWN!

### EPilogue:

AND WHILE A RAY OF HOPE SEEMS TO EMIT FROM THAT FORMER REALM, IT MAY JUST BE CLOUDED BY THE SWIRLING MISTS OF AN UNKNOWN MYSTERIOUS REALM...

WHAT FOOLS THESE MORTALS BE... TO THINK THEY COULD OUT-WIT ME...



IF ONLY THEY KNEW I'VE MANIPULATED EVERY EVENT... FROM MY SEEMING INEPTITUDE, TO MY "ULTIMATE DESTRUCTION..."



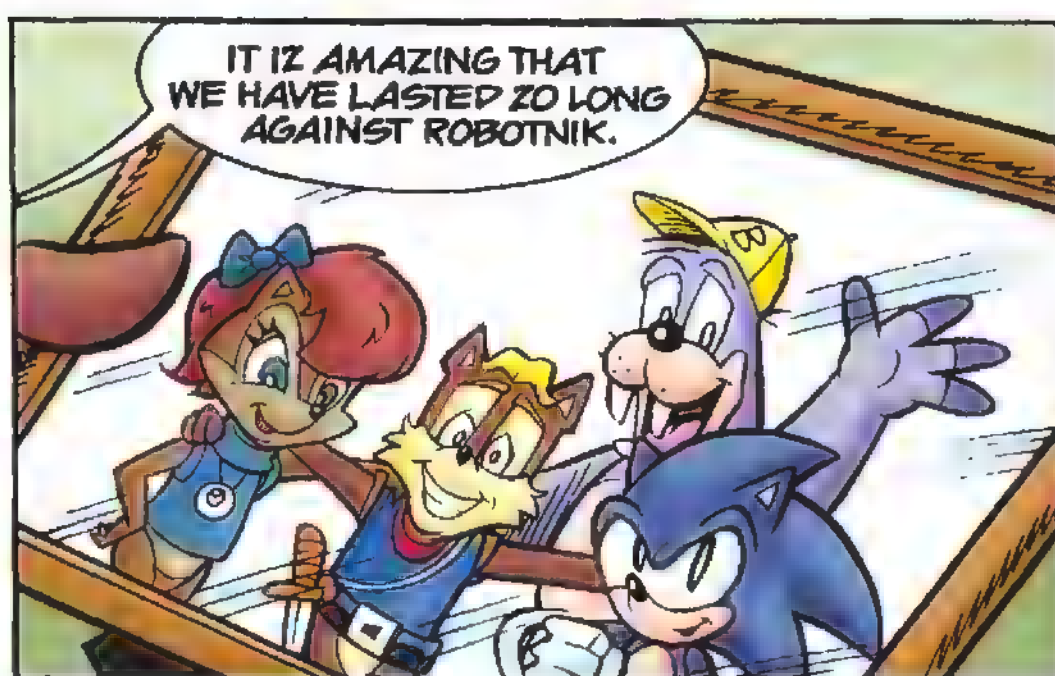
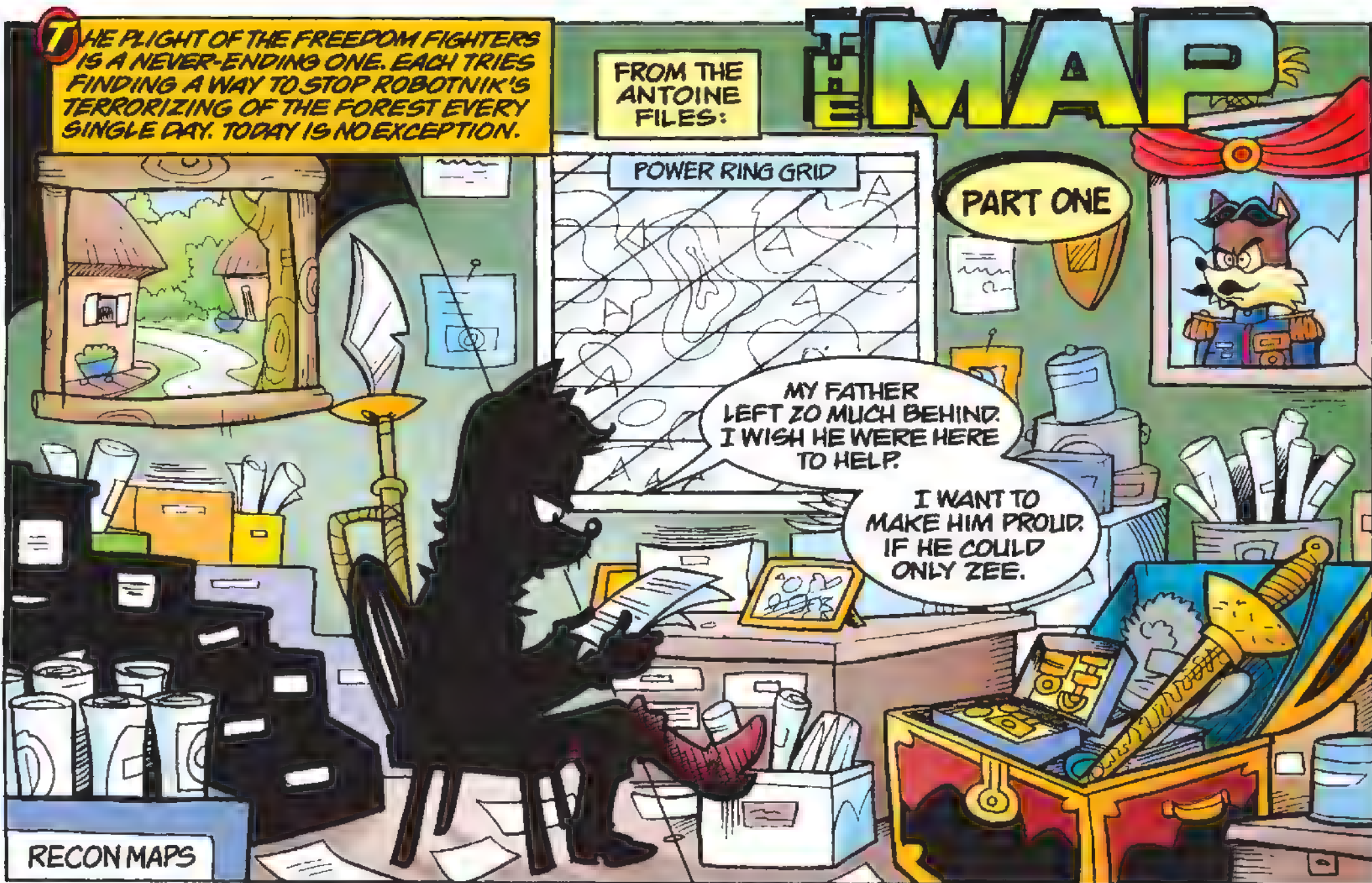
...AND BY THE TIME THEY ASCERTAIN I HAVE THE REAL SWORD OF ACORNS, IT WILL BE TOO LATE!



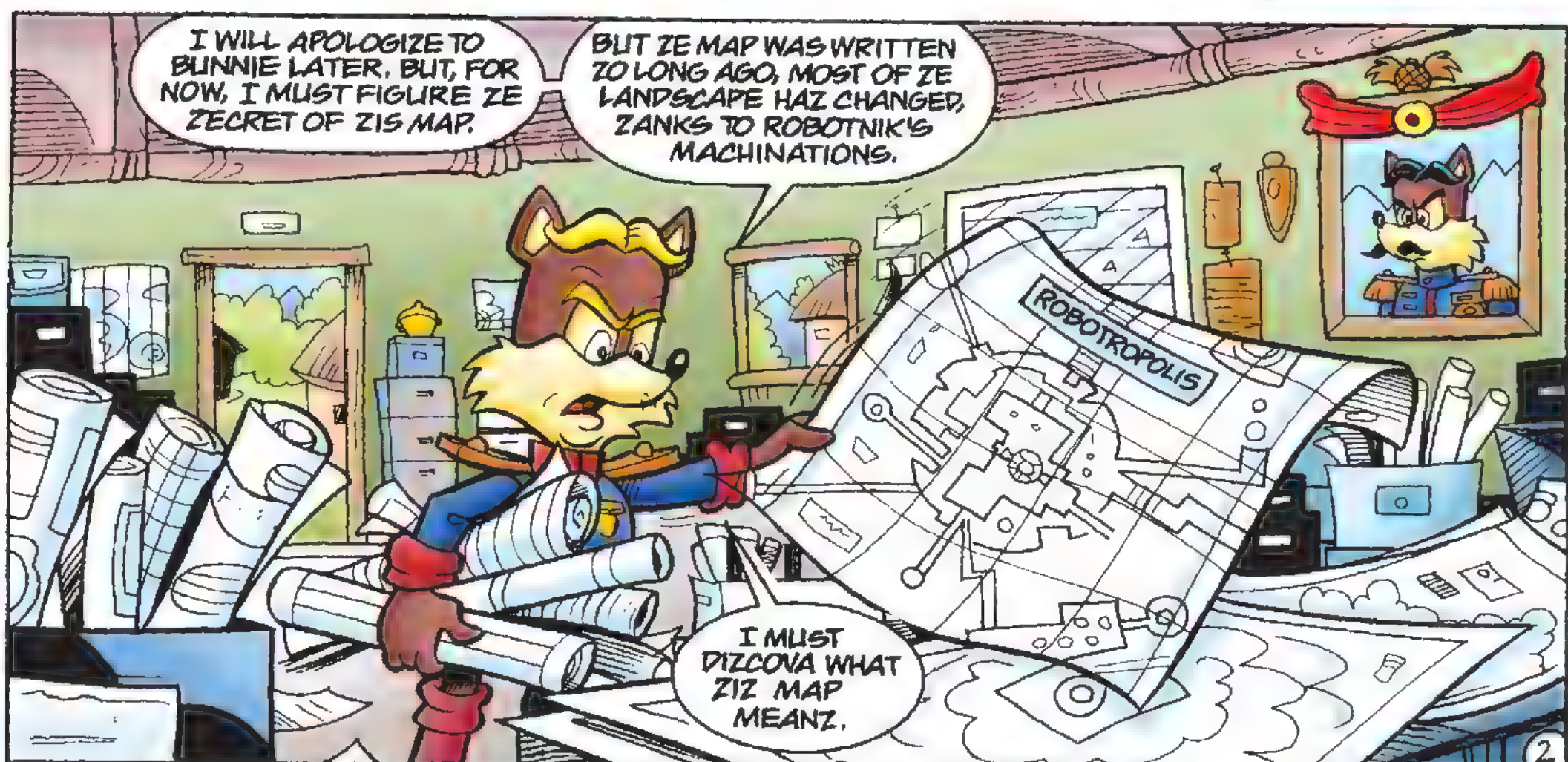
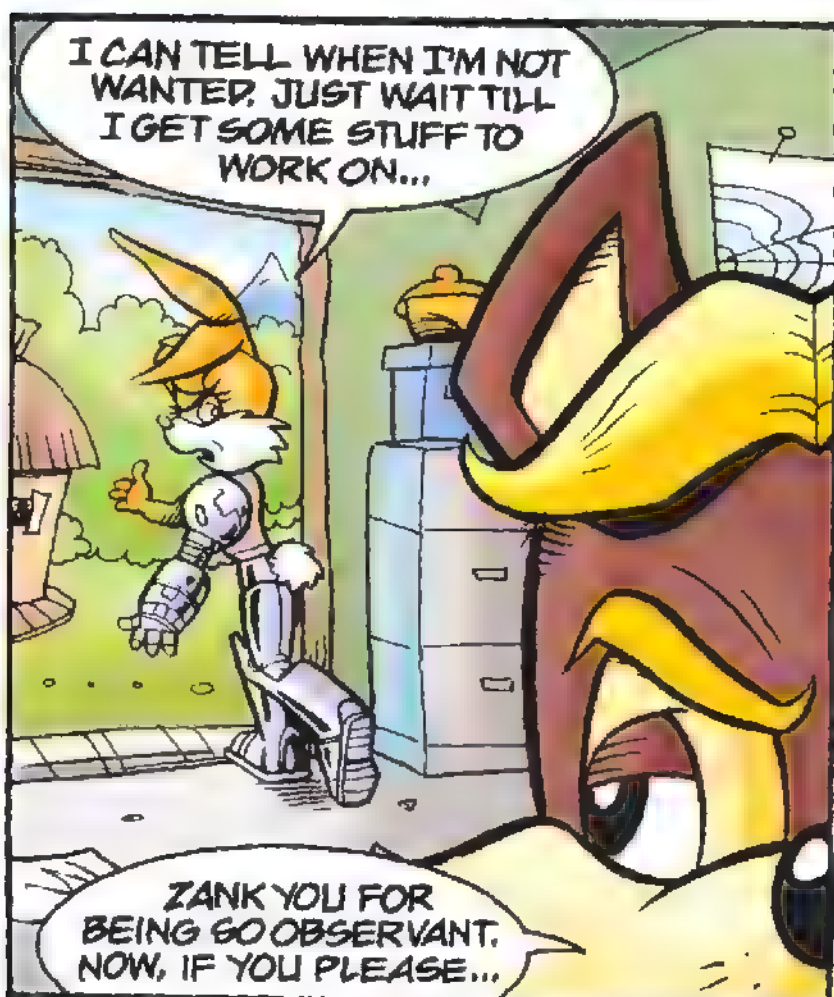
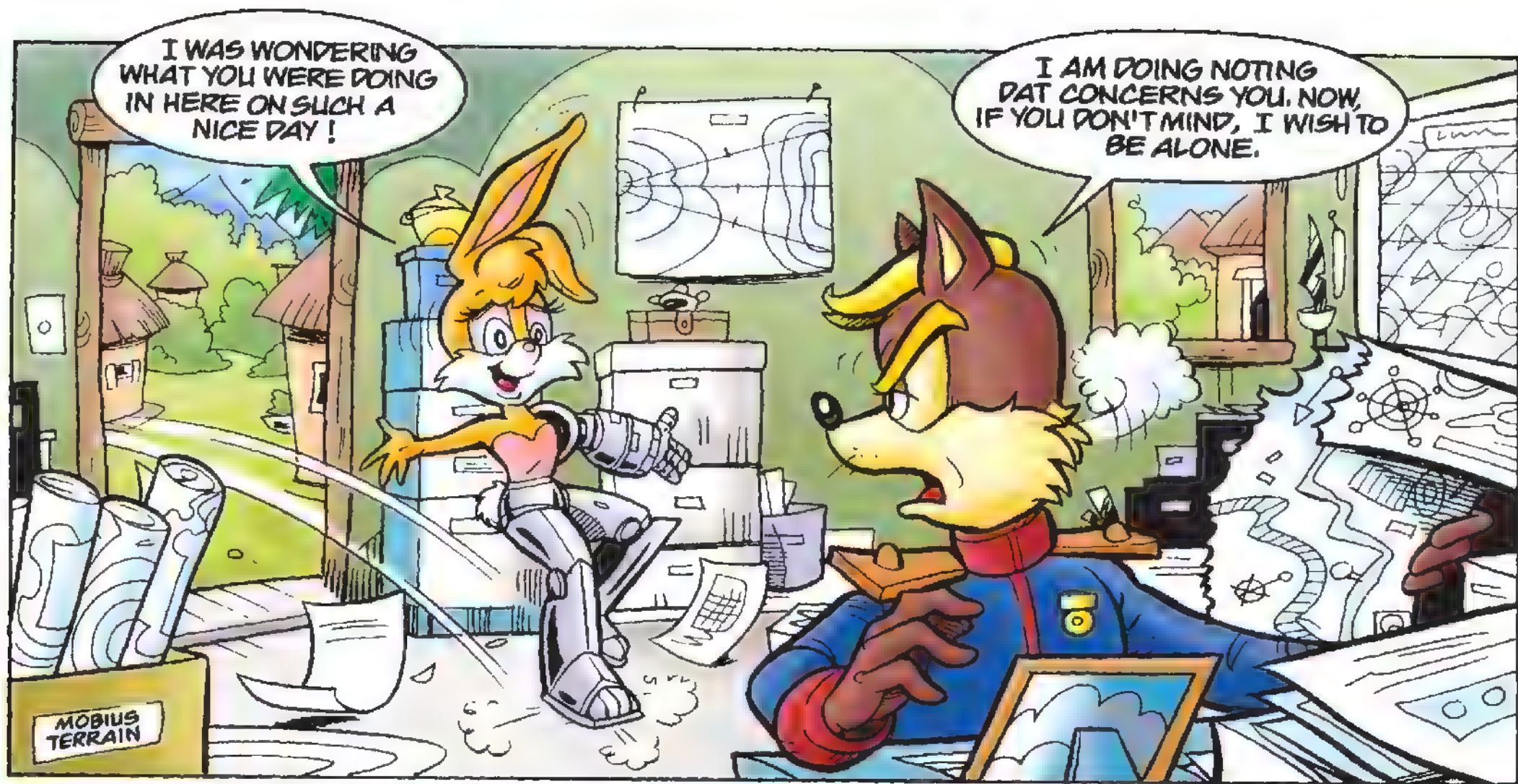
MY MASTER PLAN WILL BE WELL NEAR COMPLETION, LEAVING THE ENTIRE PLANET MOBIUS GROVELING AT MY FEET!

KING ACORN RESTORED TO HEALTH?! LOOKS LIKE IT'S COUNTDOWN TO ROBOTNIK'S DESTRUCTION, OR IS IT? THE ANSWER IS ENDGAME IN SONIC ARCHIVES VOL.13! AND WHAT OF MAMMOTH MOGUL? KEEP READING SONIC ARCHIVES, SELECT & THE UPCOMING KNUCKLES ARCHIVES TO FIND OUT!

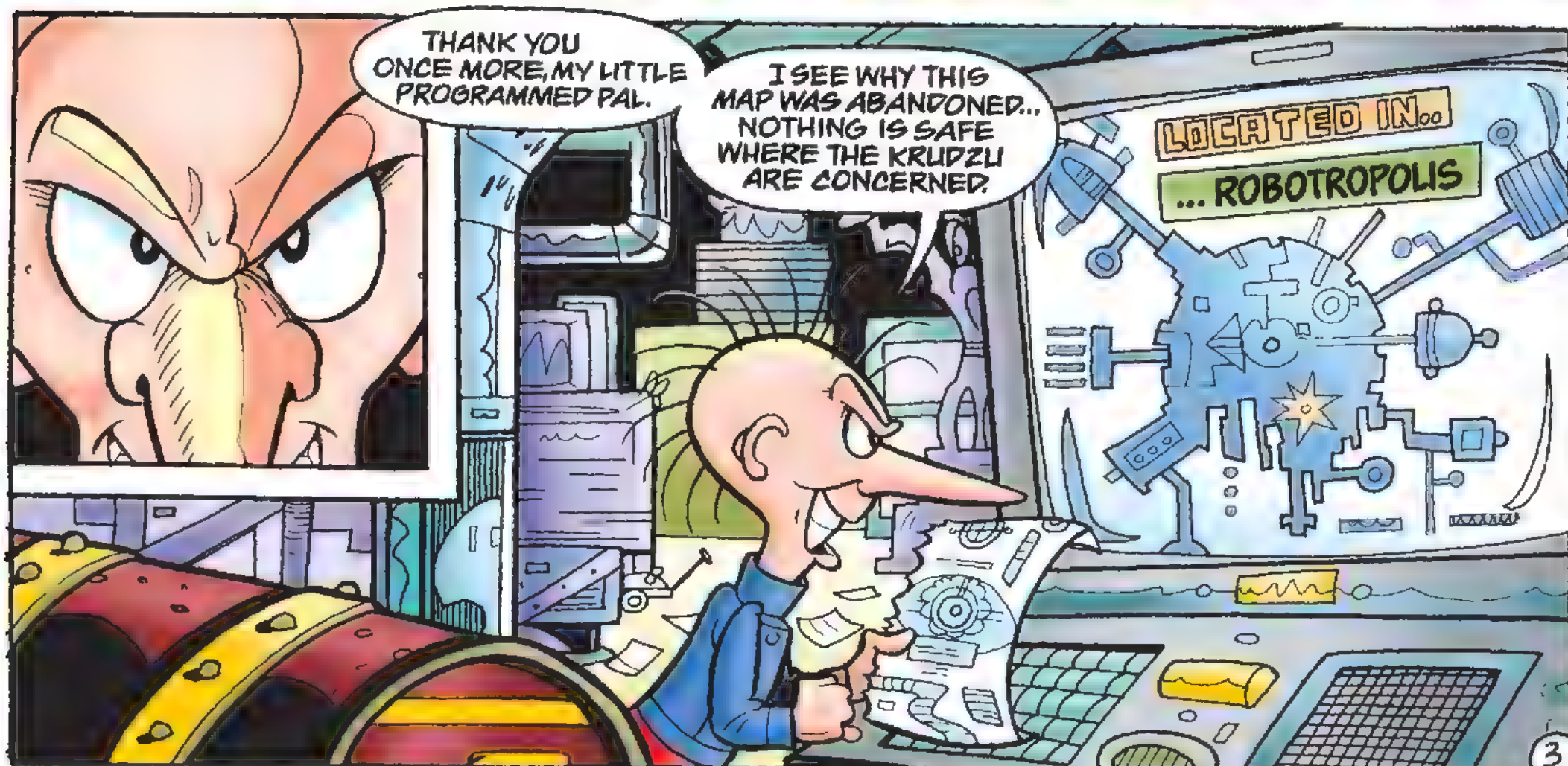
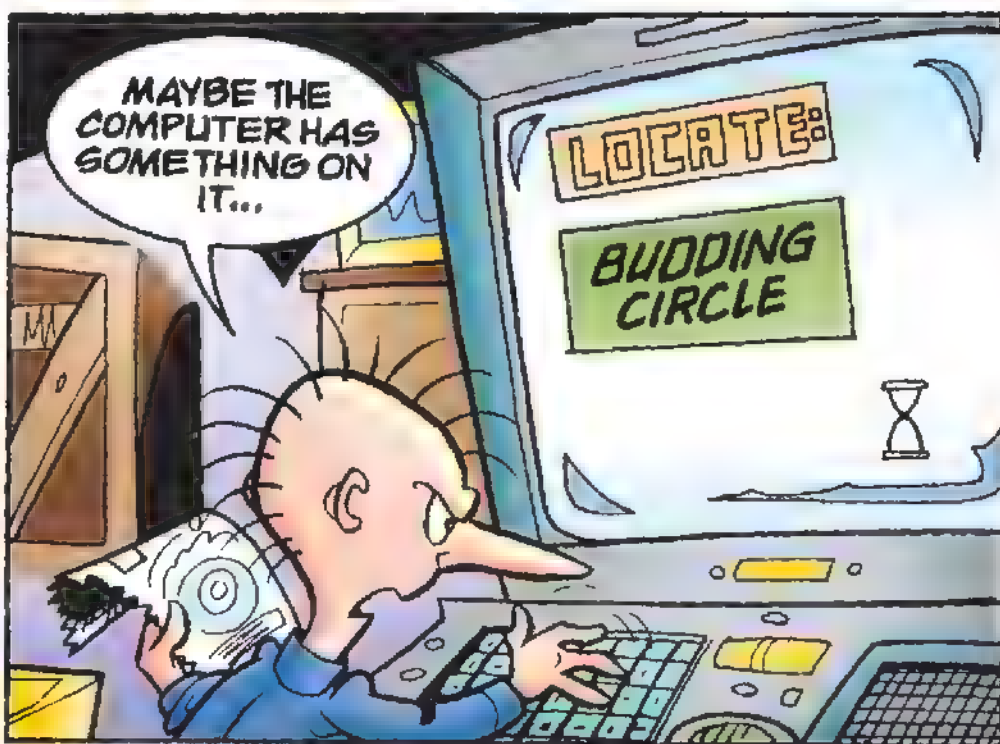
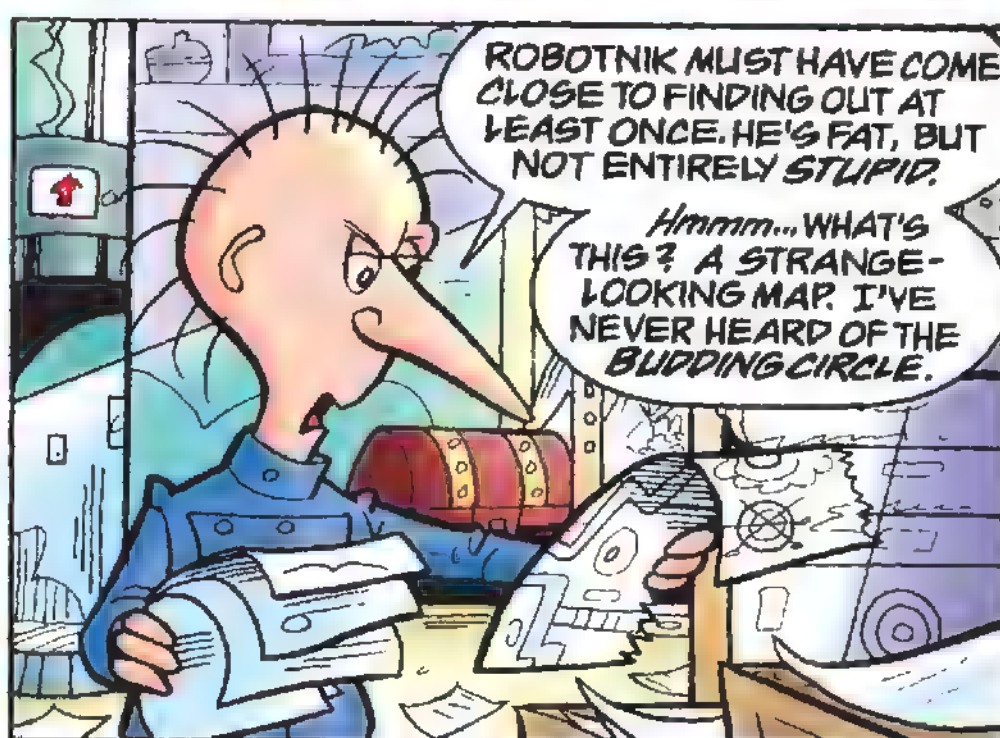
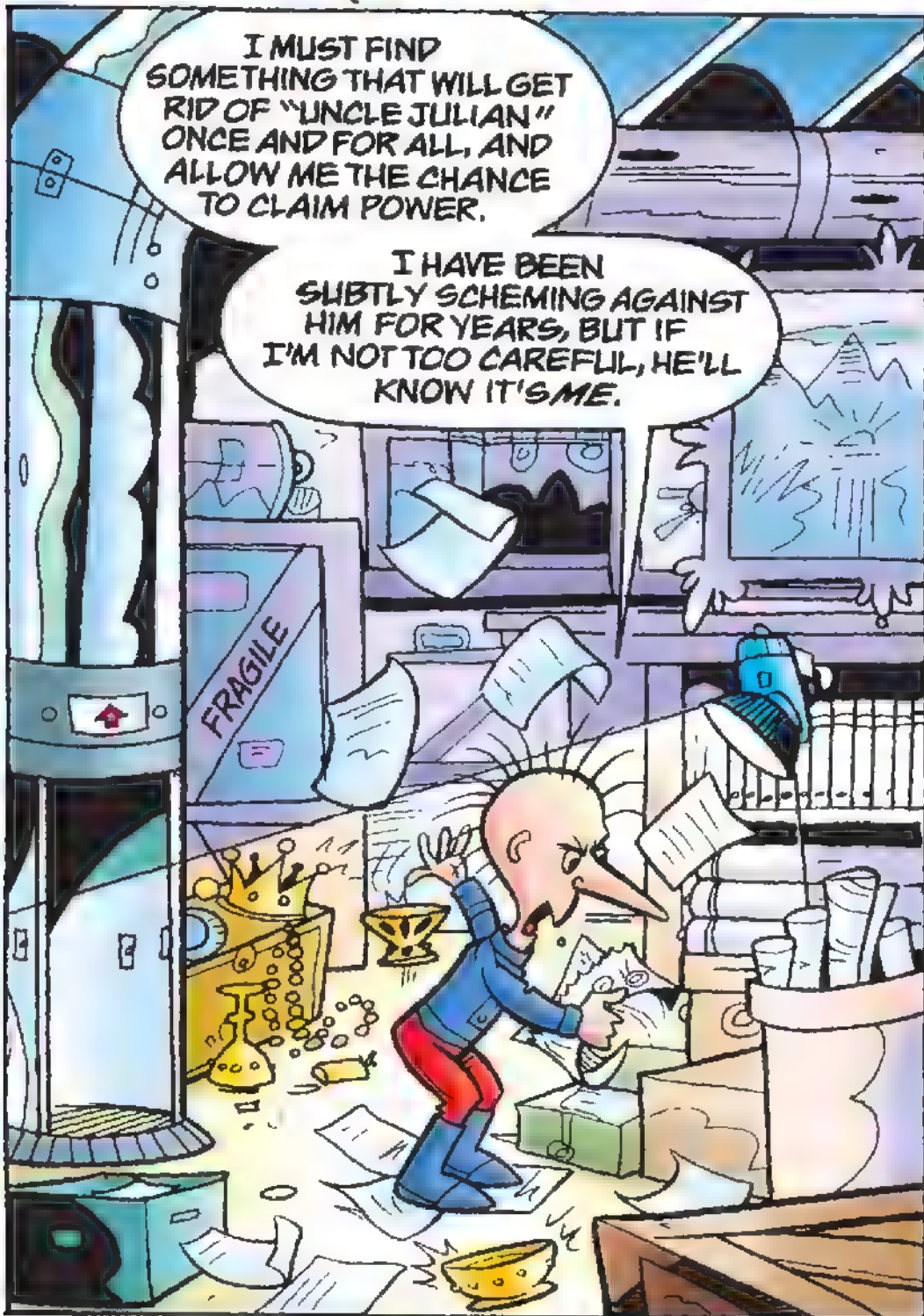
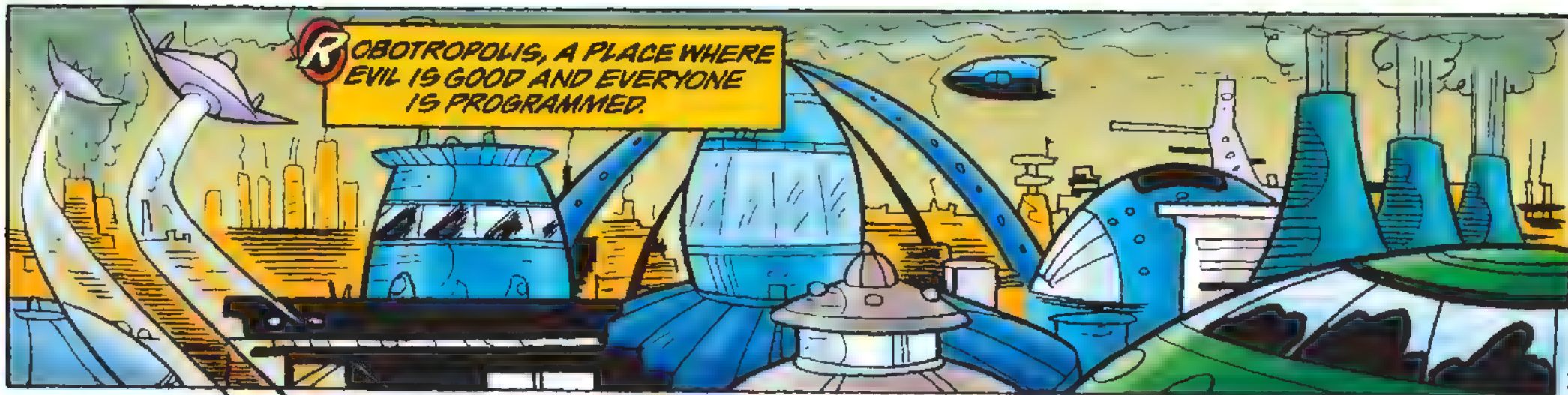




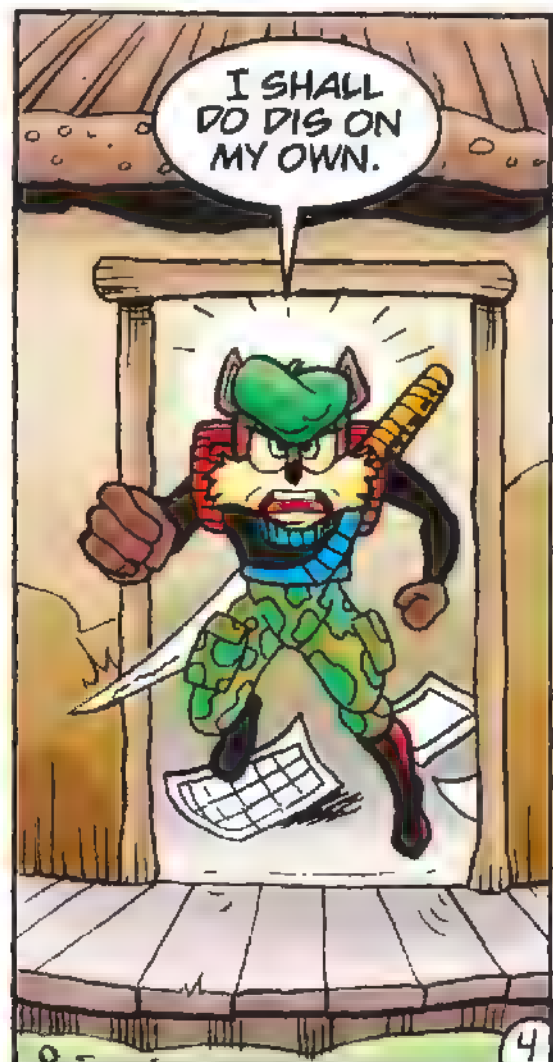
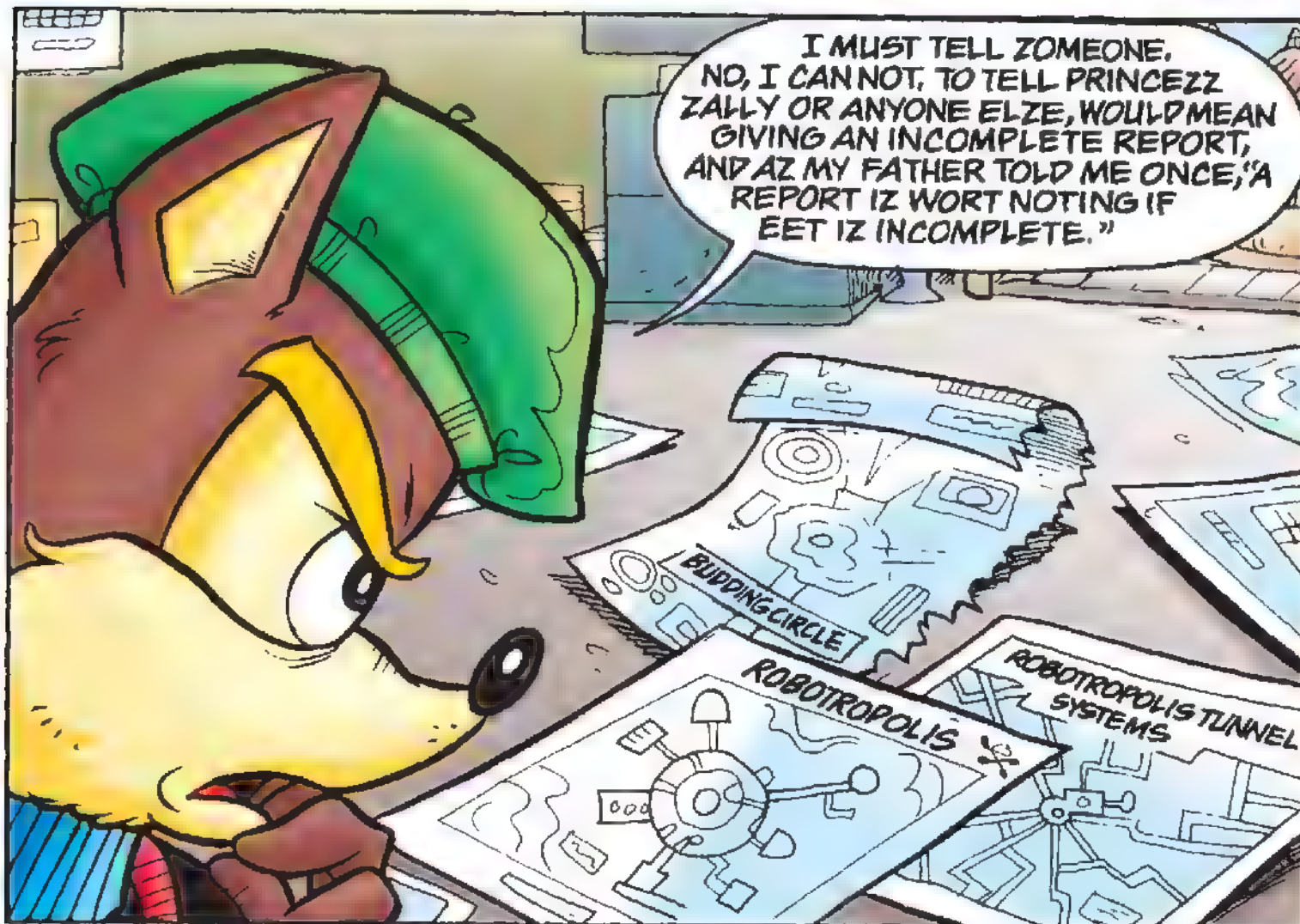
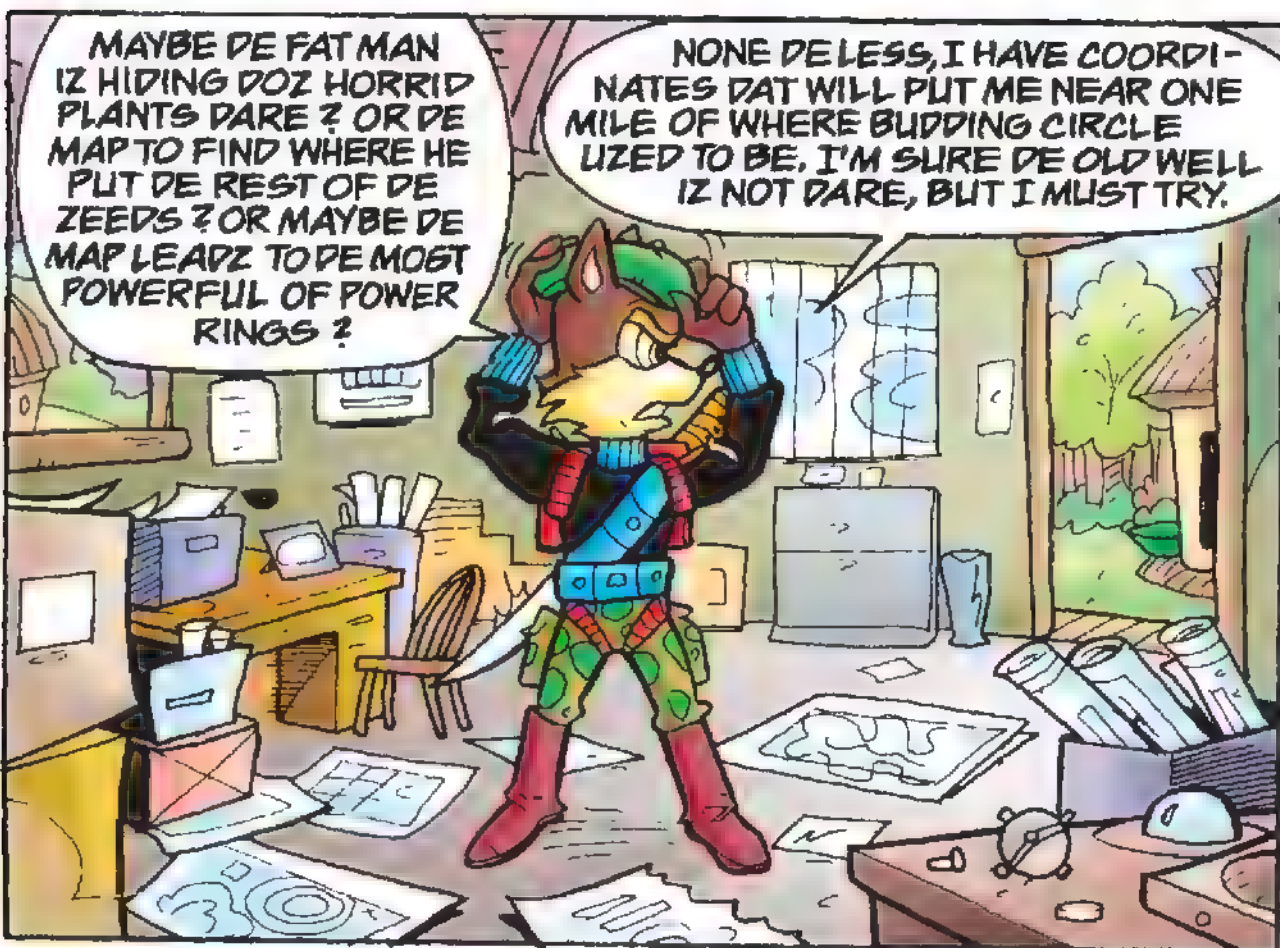
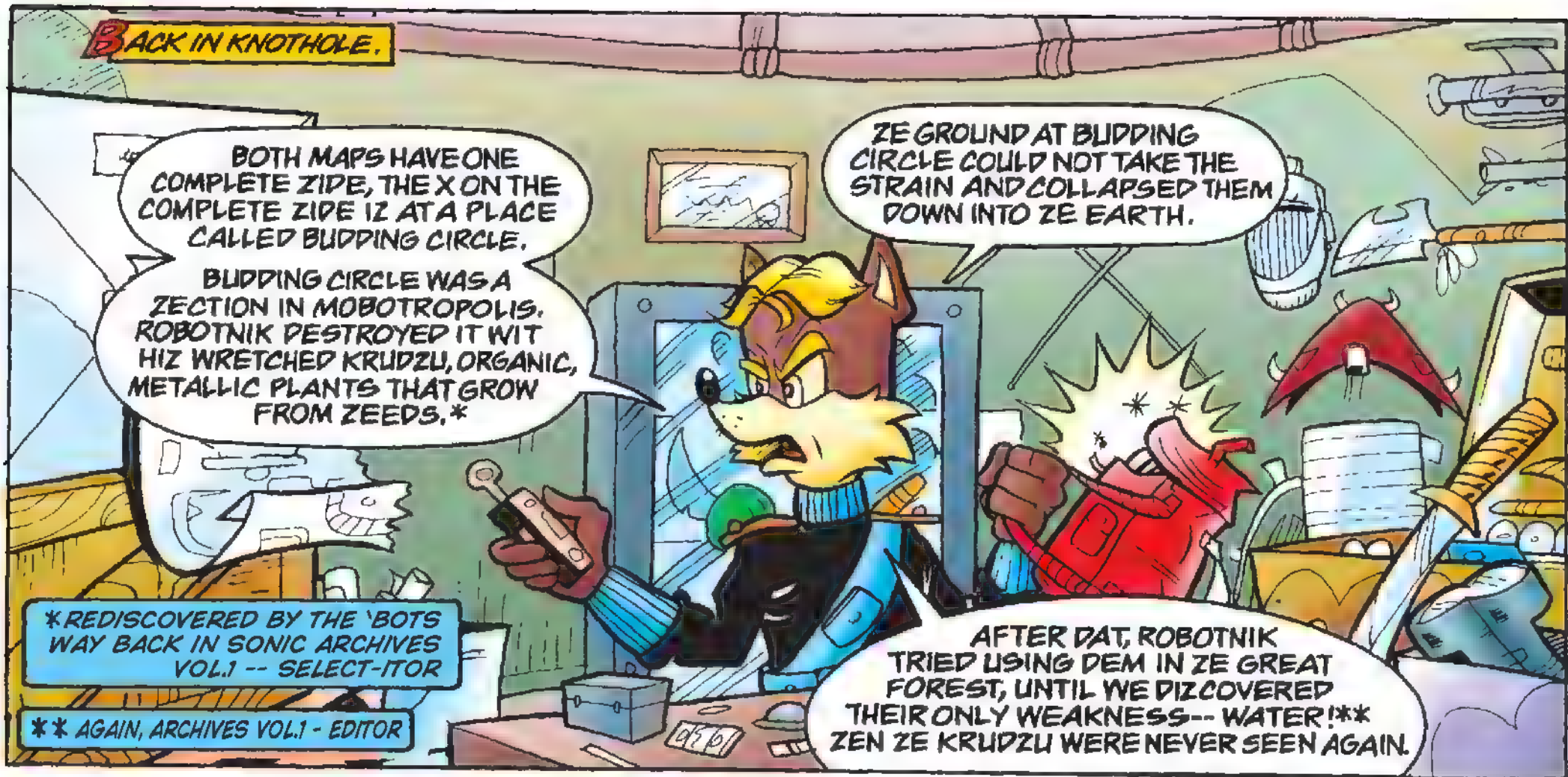




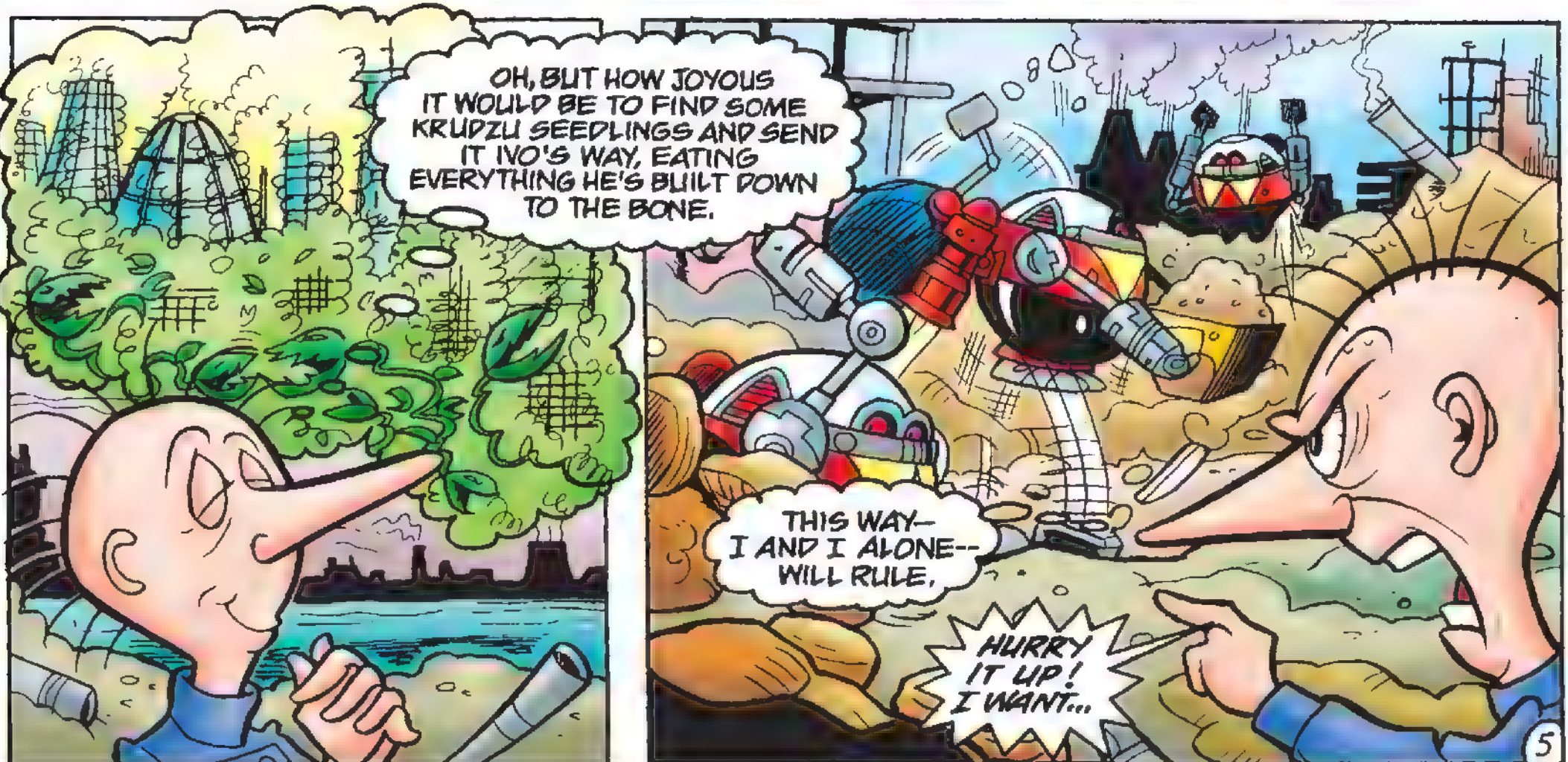
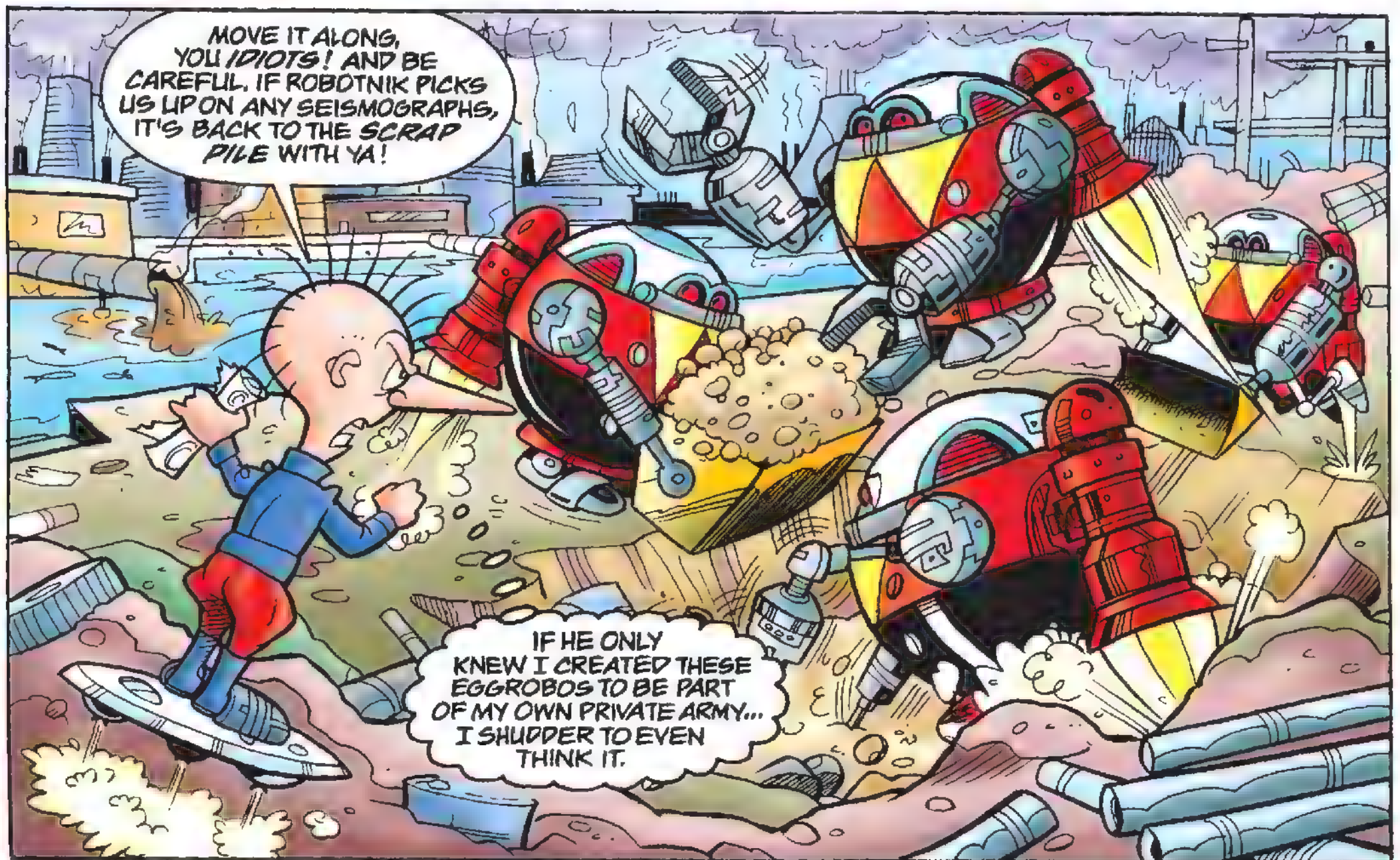
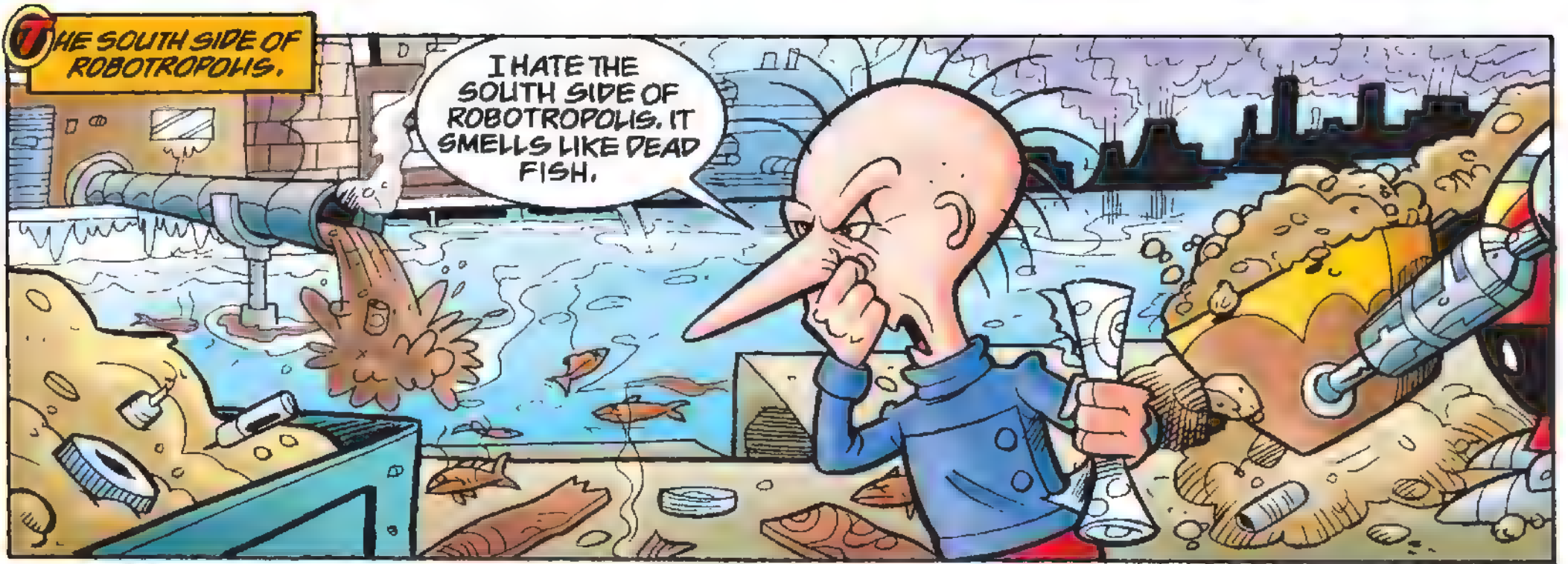




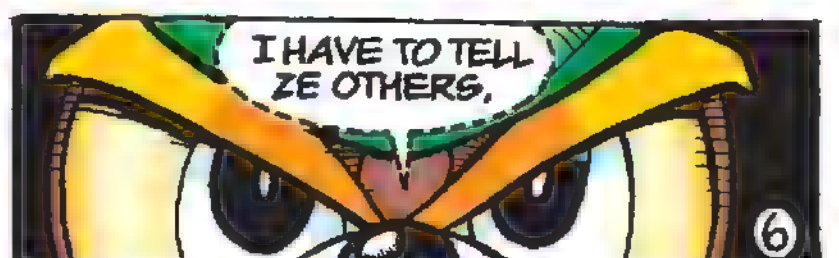
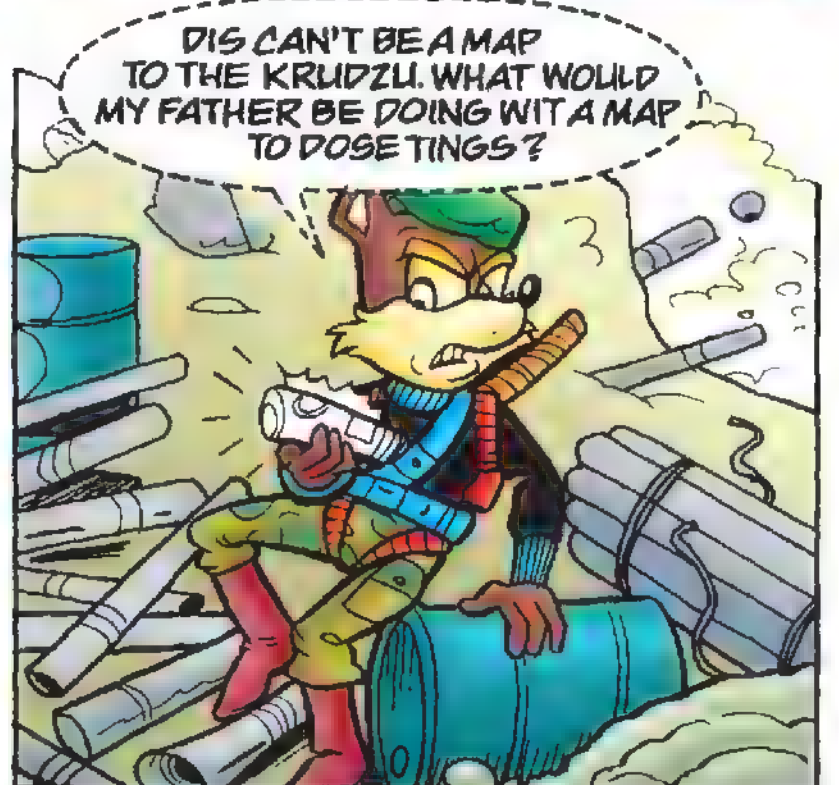
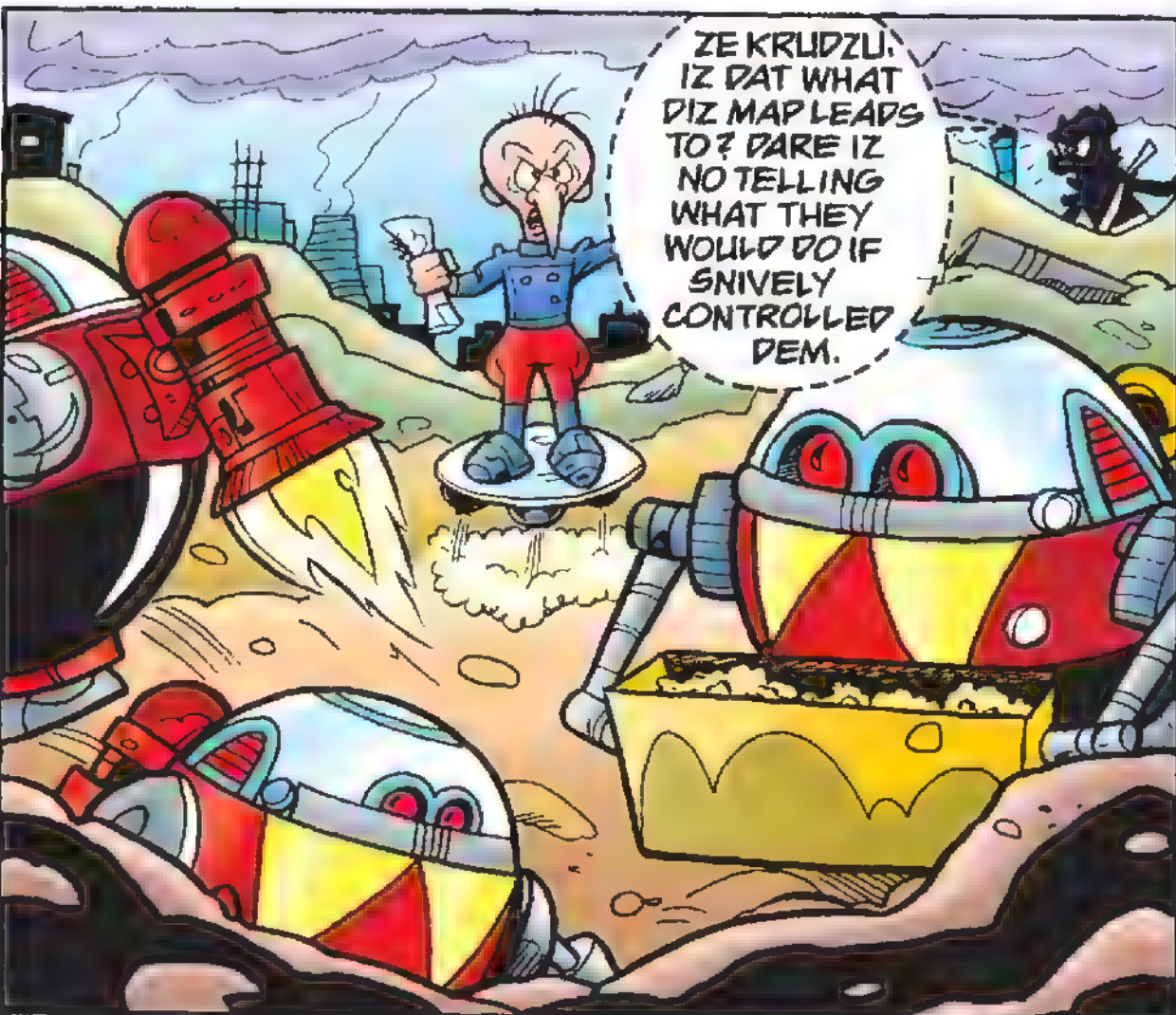
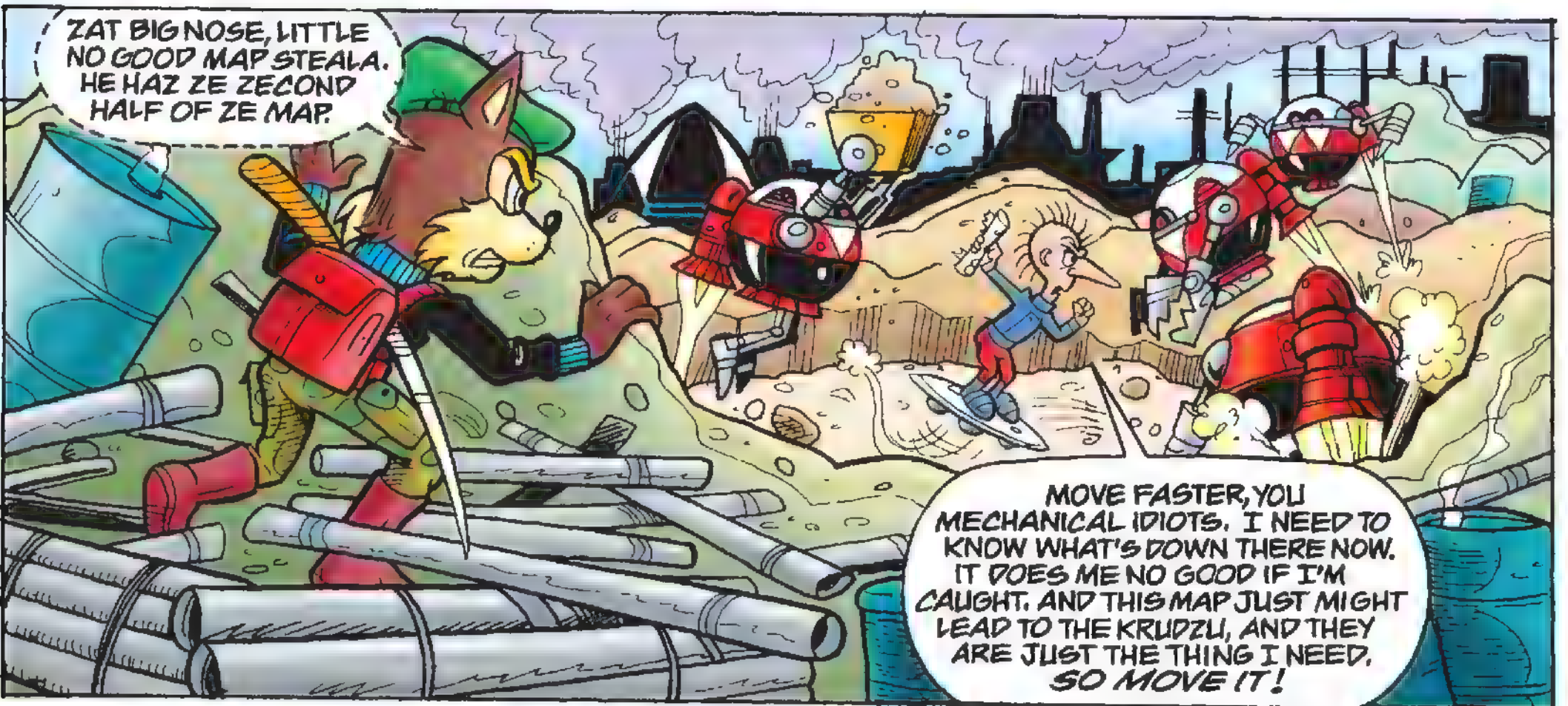
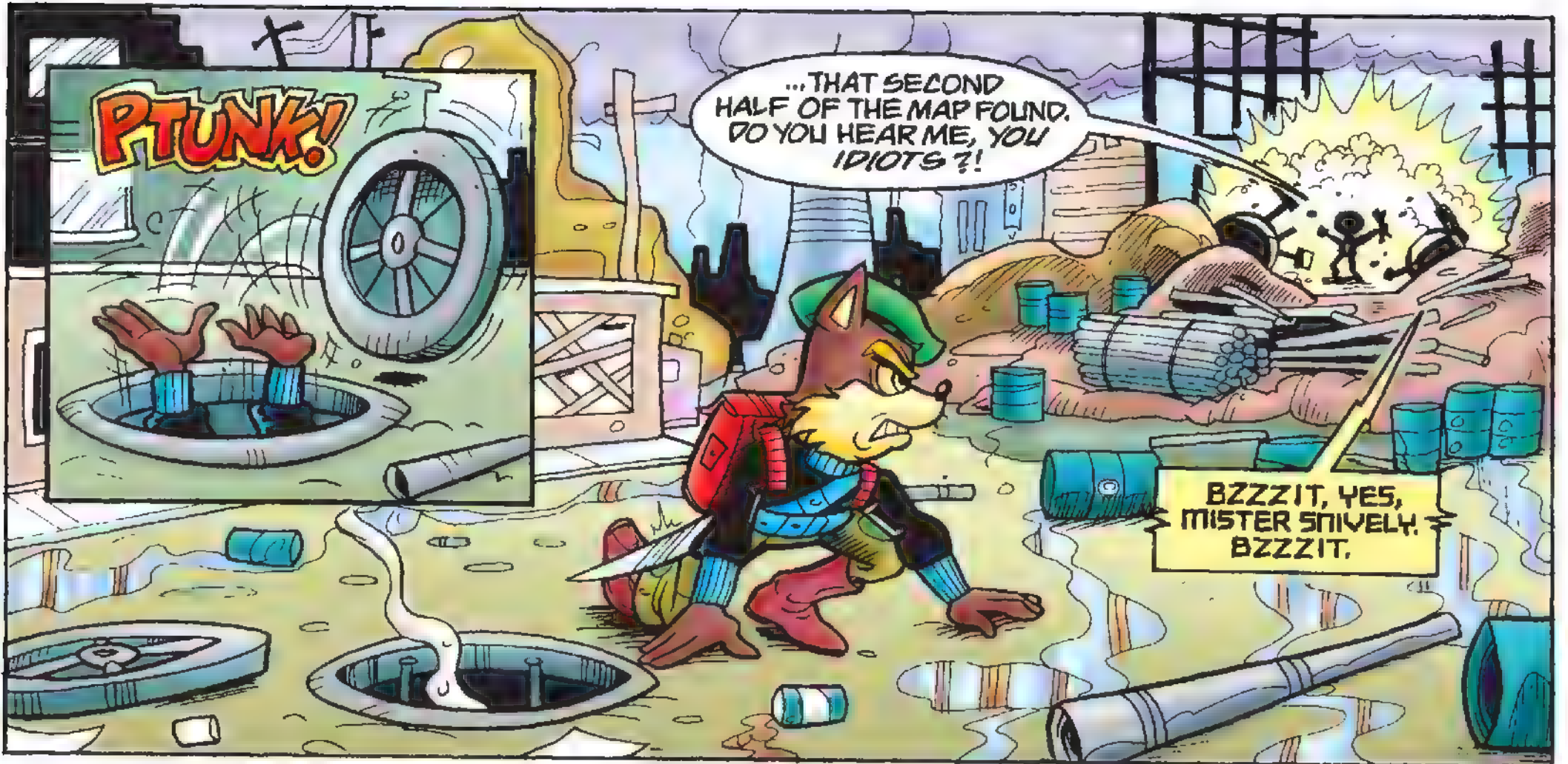




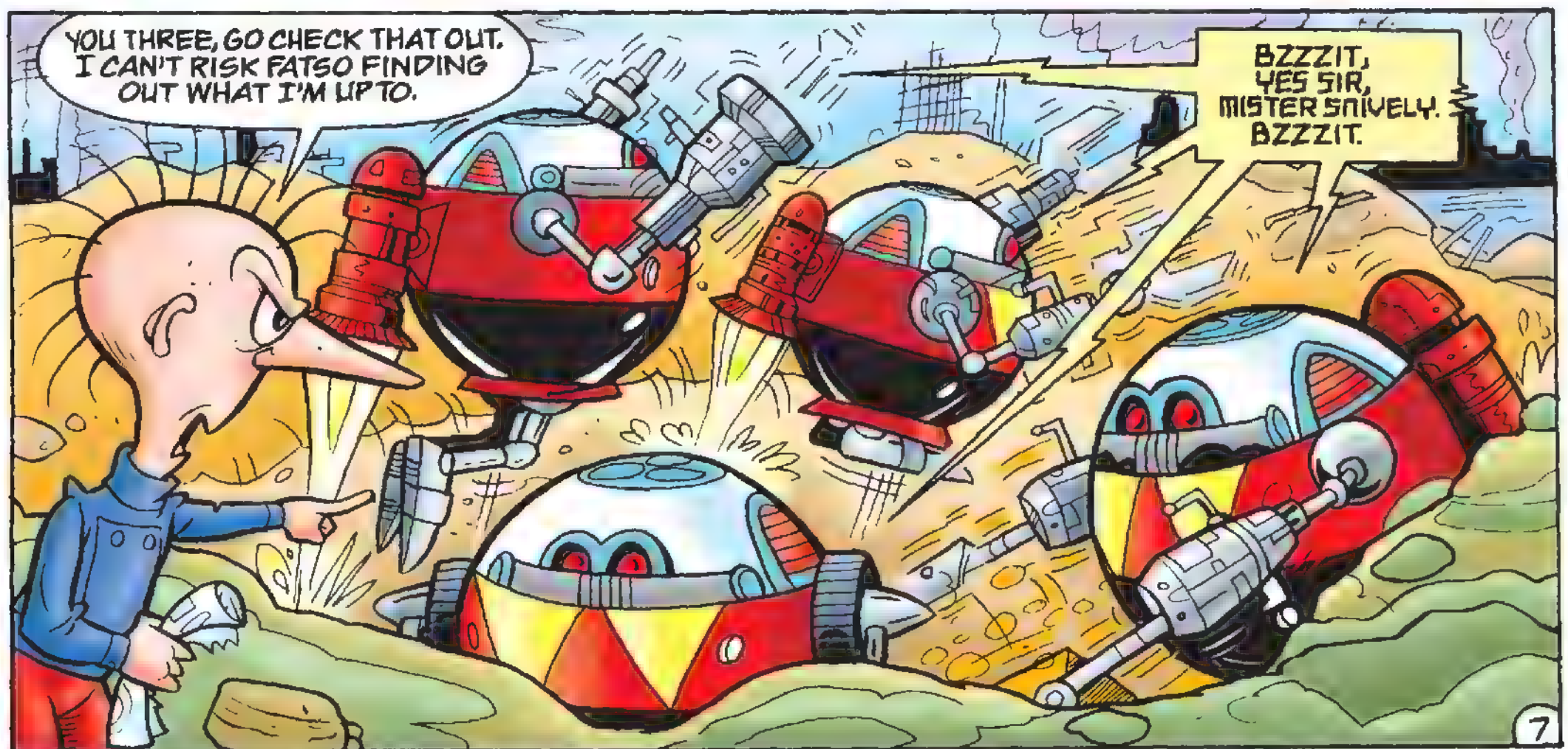
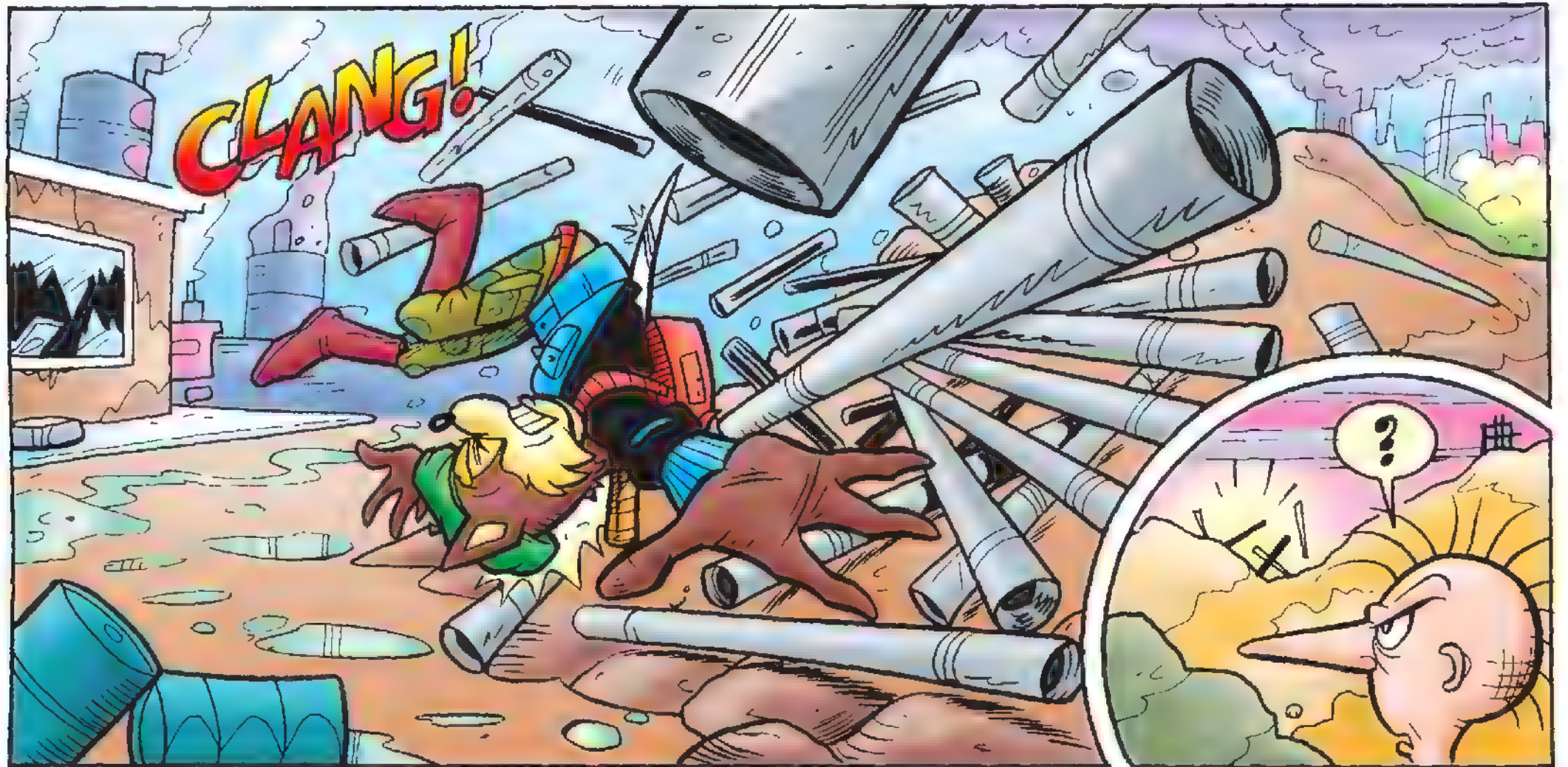




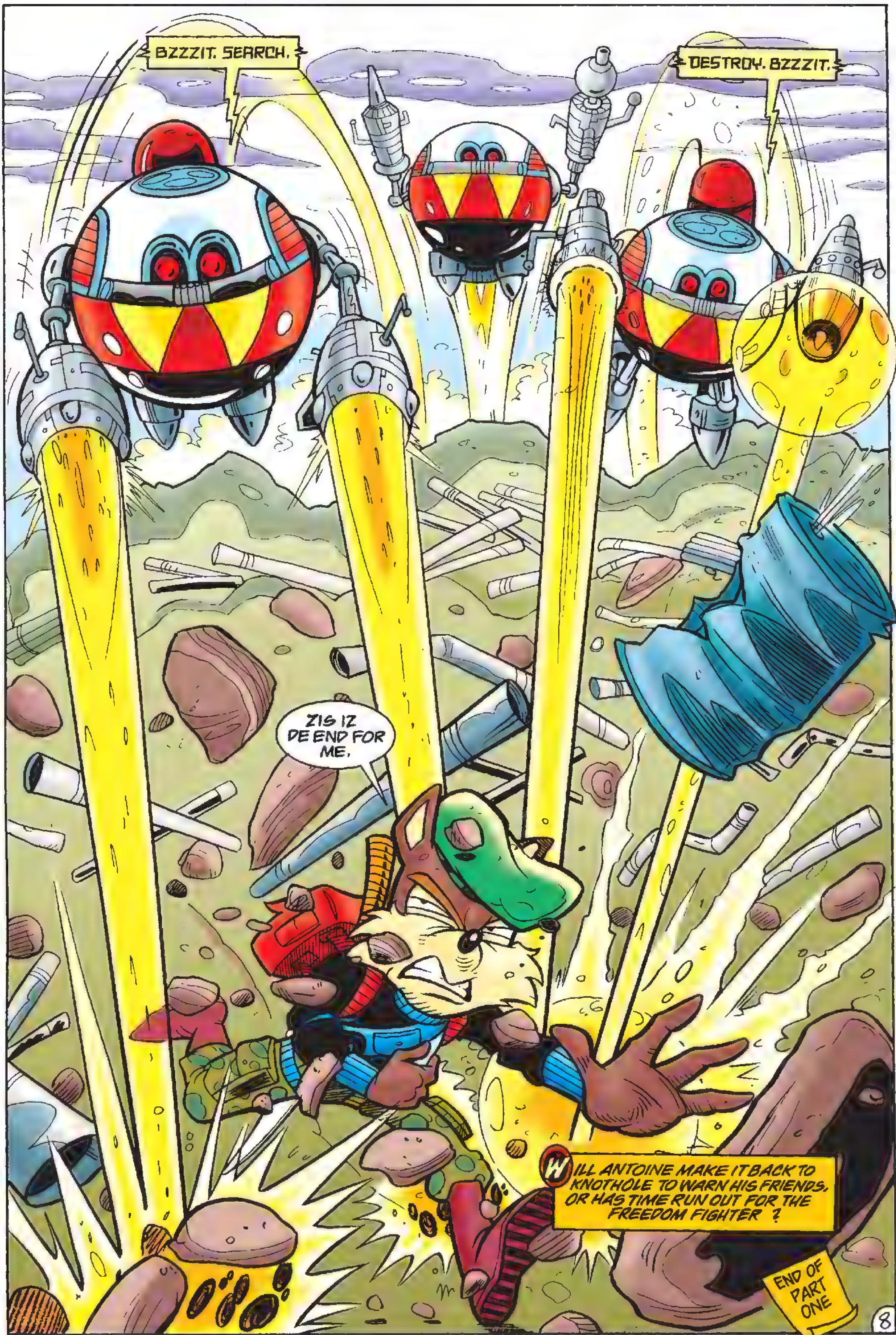












BZZZIT. SEARCH.

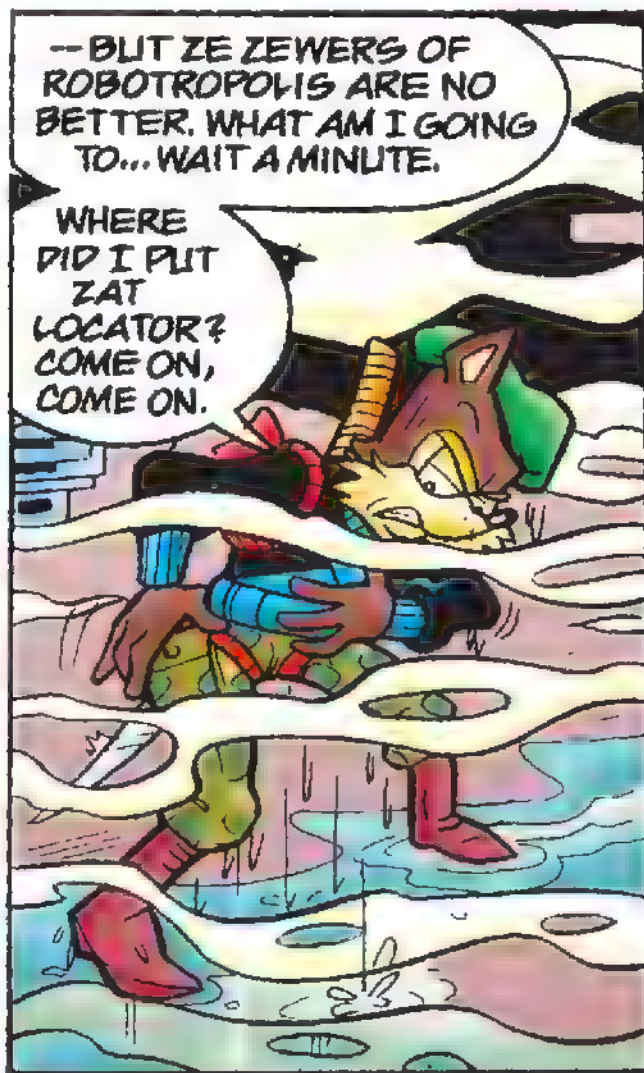
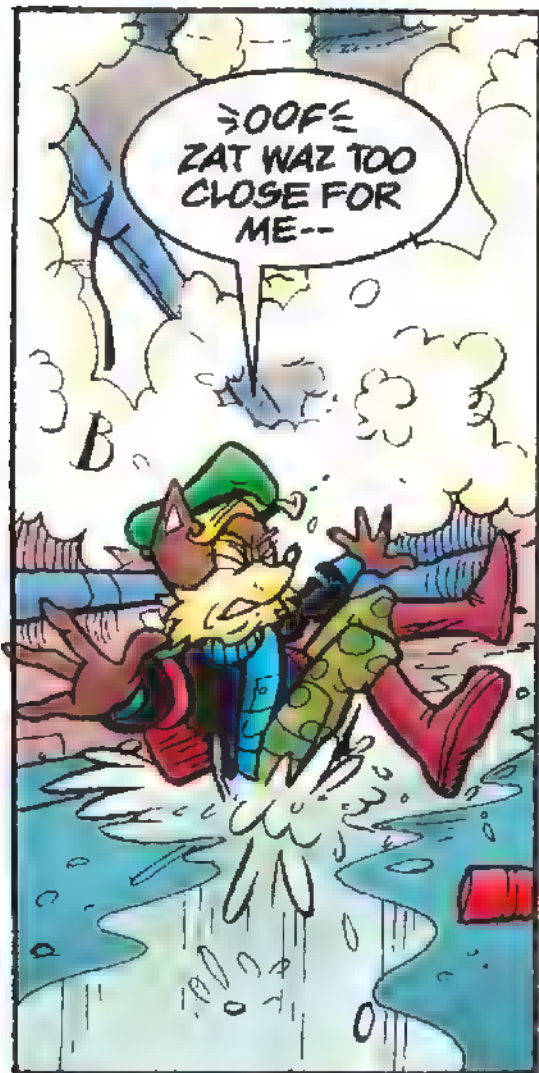
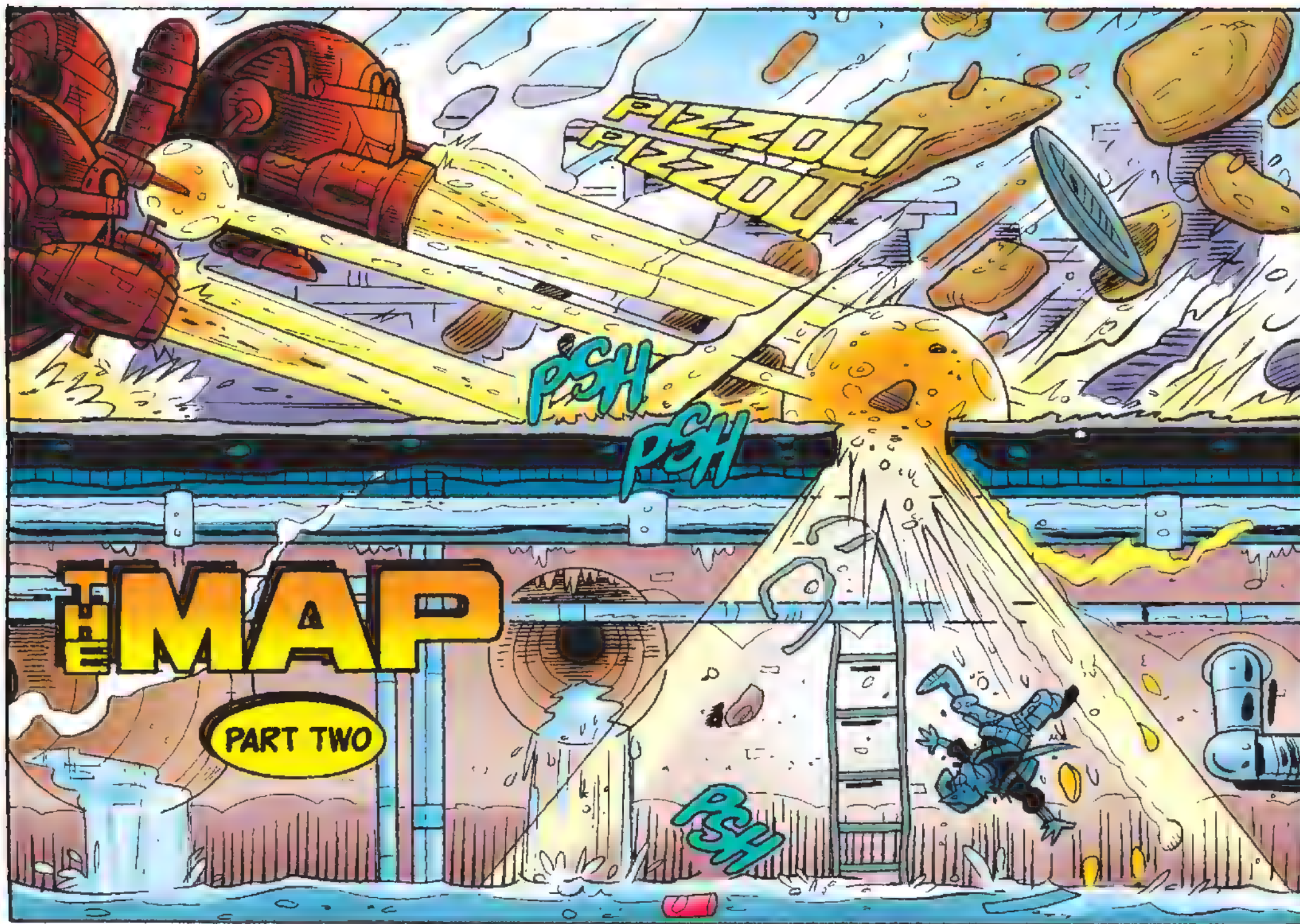
DESTROY. BZZZIT.

ZIS IZ  
DE END FOR  
ME.

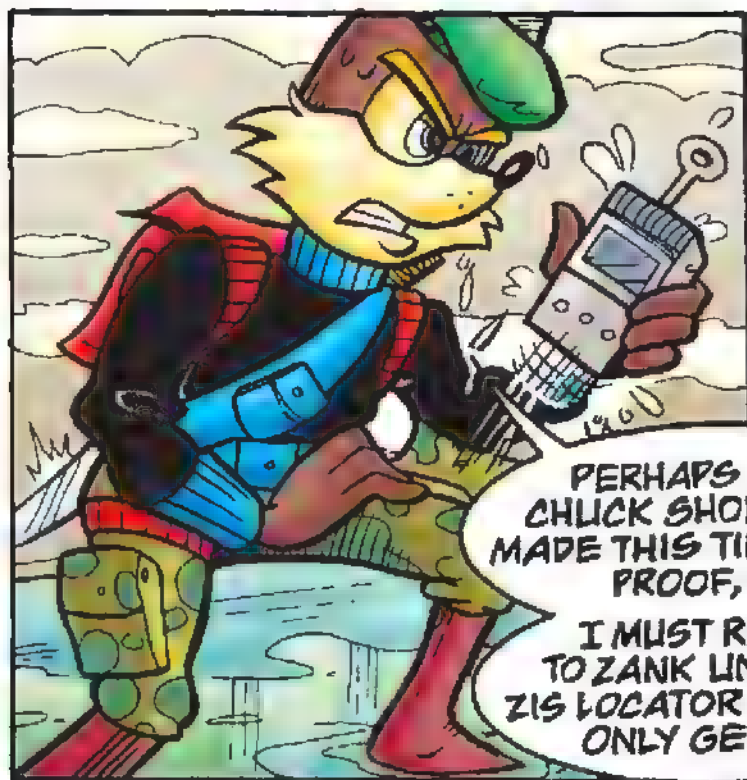
WILL ANTOINE MAKE IT BACK TO  
KNOTHOLE TO WARN HIS FRIENDS,  
OR HAS TIME RUN OUT FOR THE  
FREEDOM FIGHTER?

END OF  
PART  
ONE



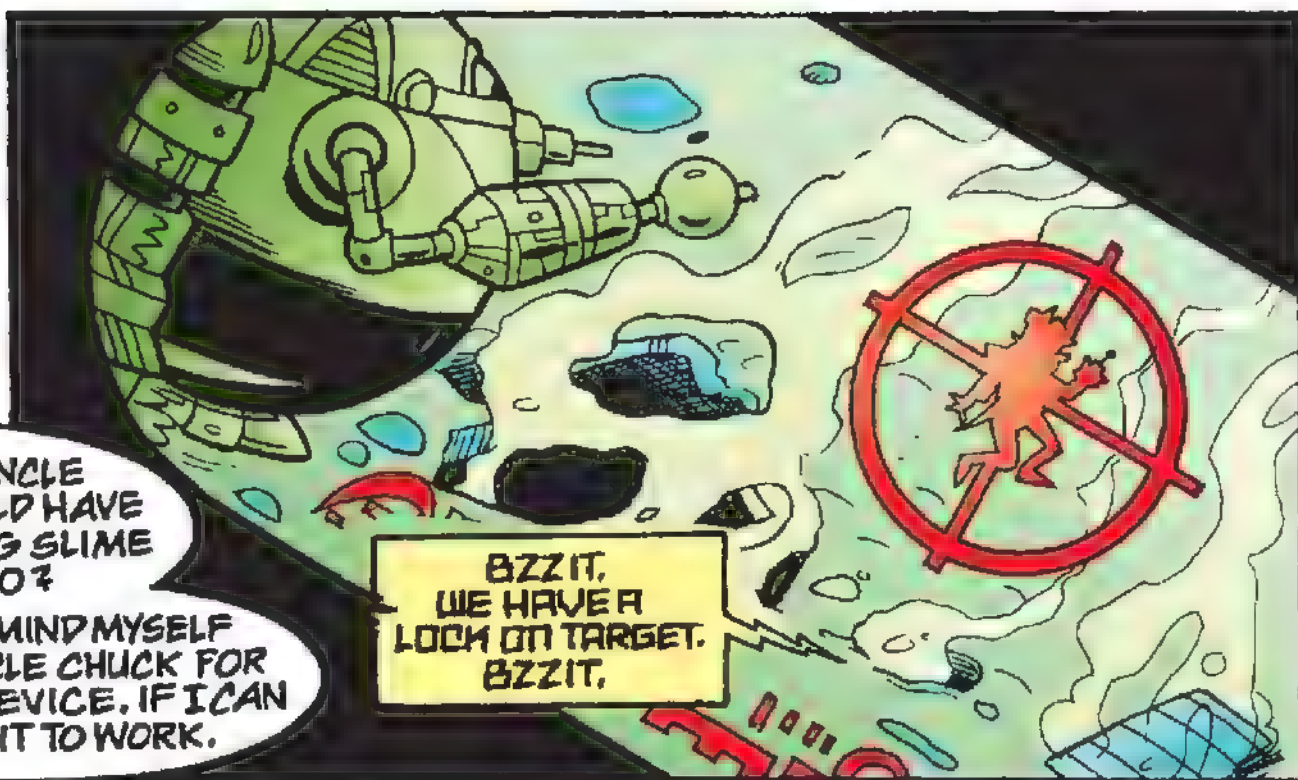






PERHAPS UNCLE CHUCK SHOULD HAVE MADE THIS THING SLIME PROOF, NO?

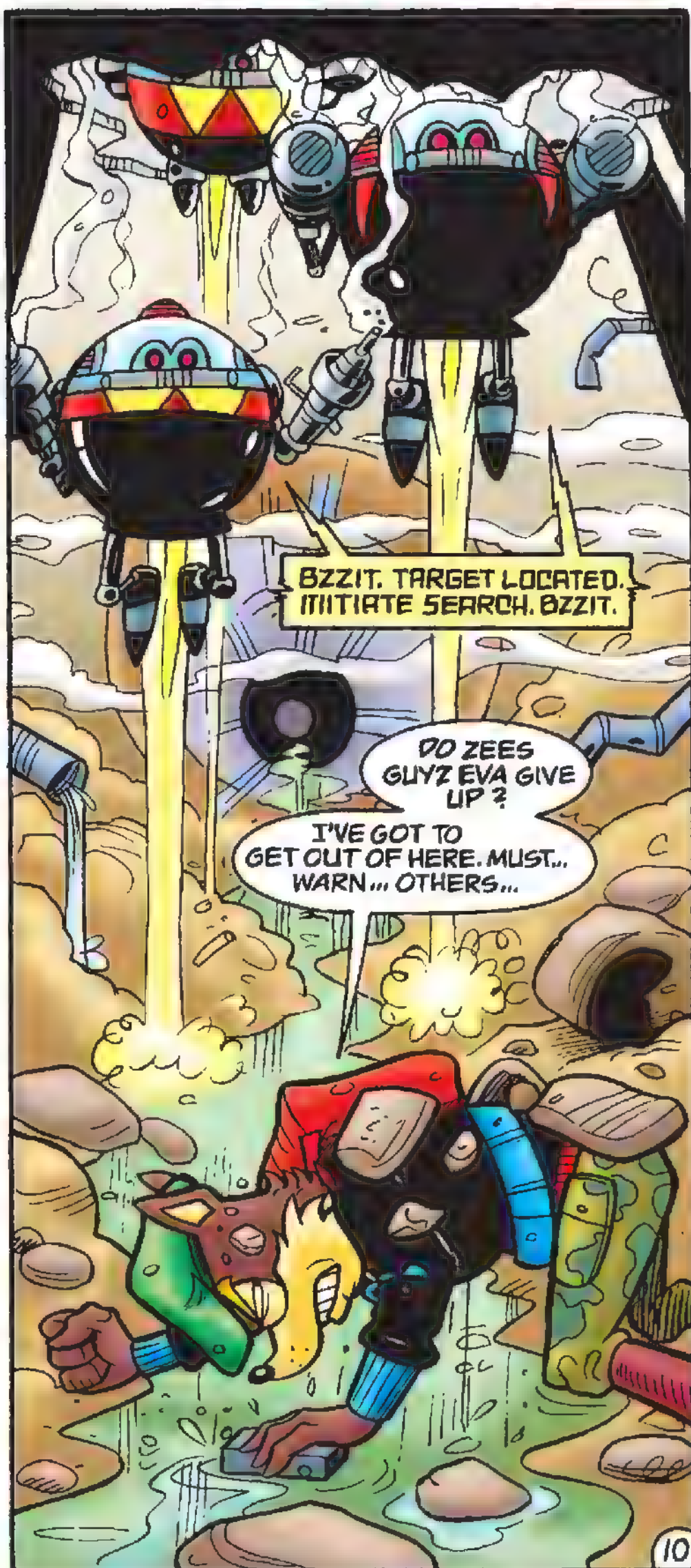
I MUST REMIND MYSELF TO ZANK UNCLE CHUCK FOR HIS LOCATOR DEVICE. IF I CAN ONLY GET IT TO WORK.



BZZIT, WE HAVE A LOCK ON TARGET. BZZIT.



ZONIC WOULD SAY SOMETHING SNAPPY RIGHT NOW, BUT I CAN NO TINK OF ANYTING.

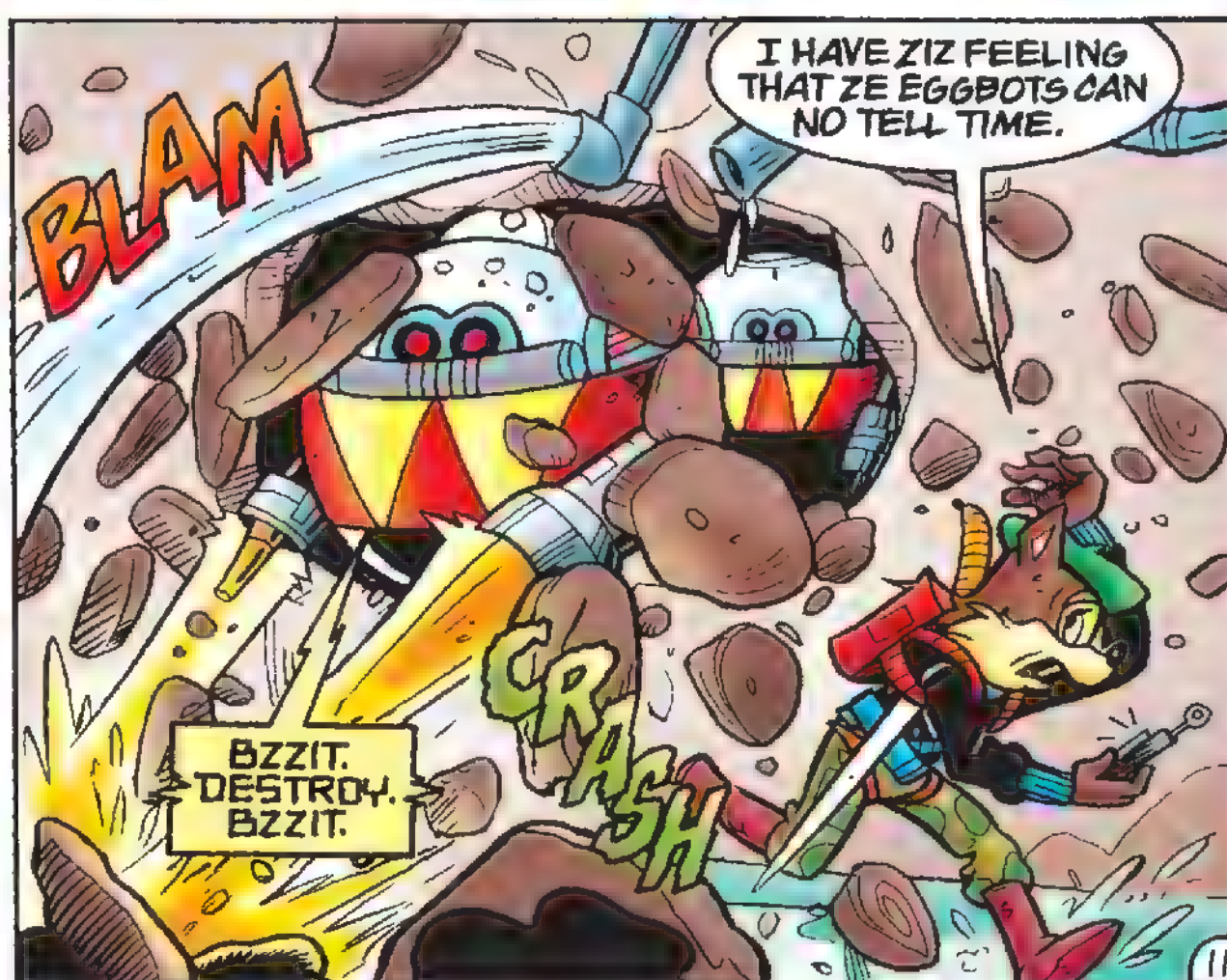
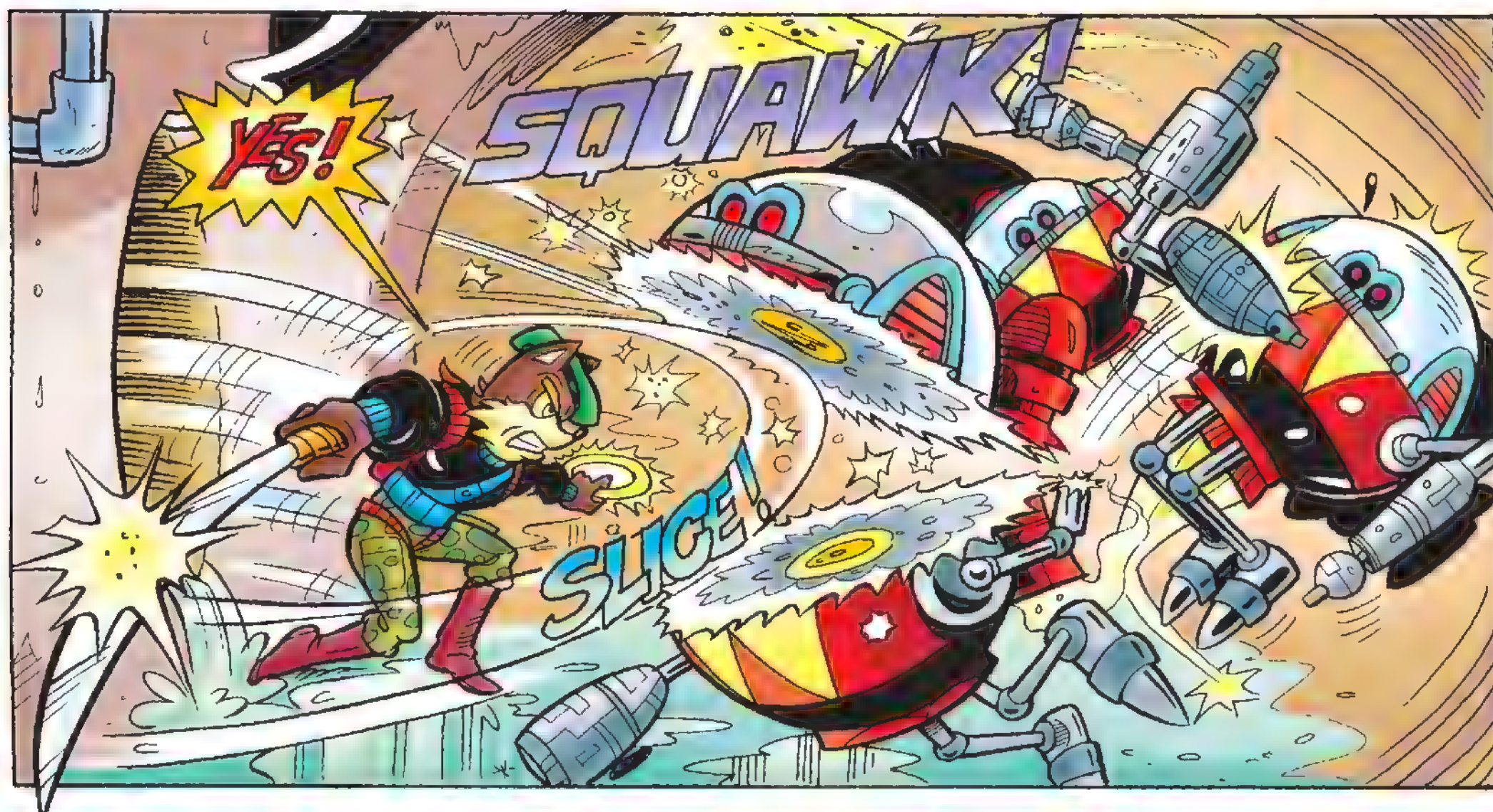
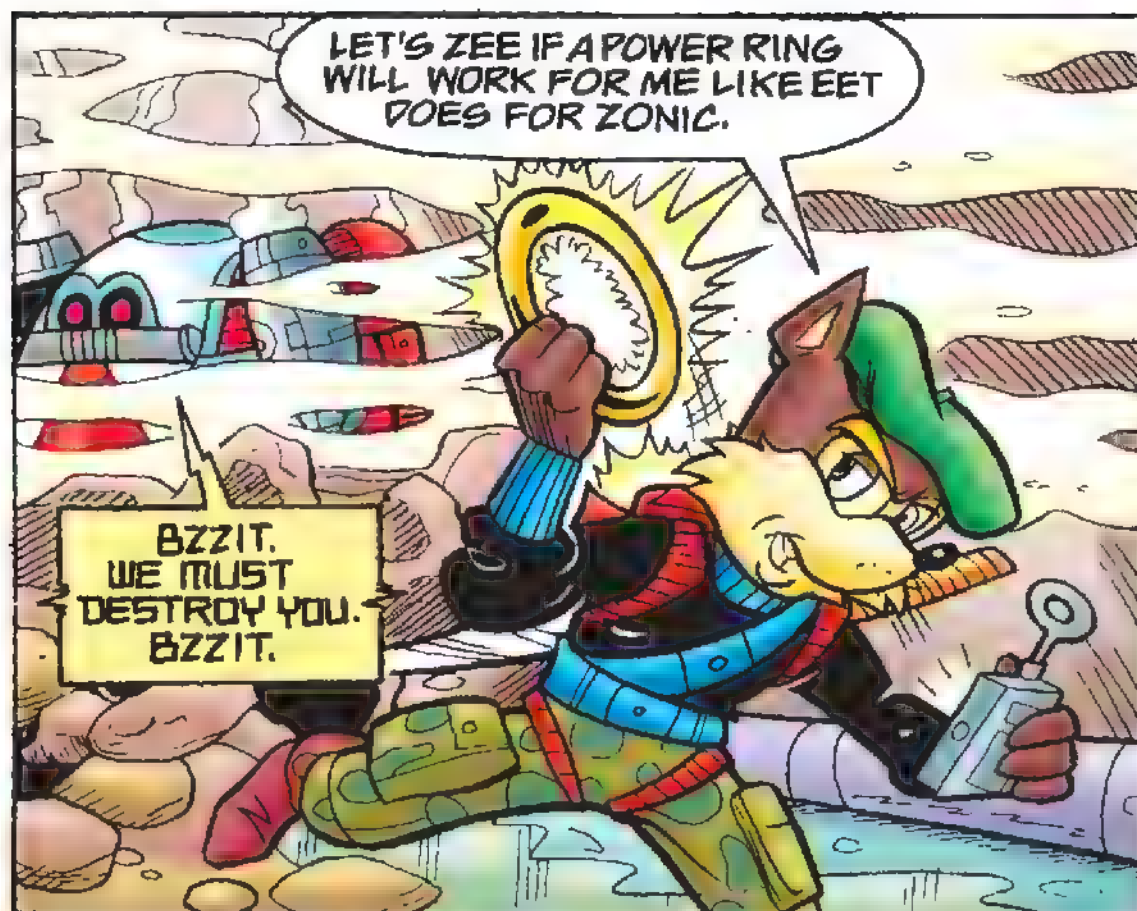


BZZIT. TARGET LOCATED. INITIATE SEARCH. BZZIT.

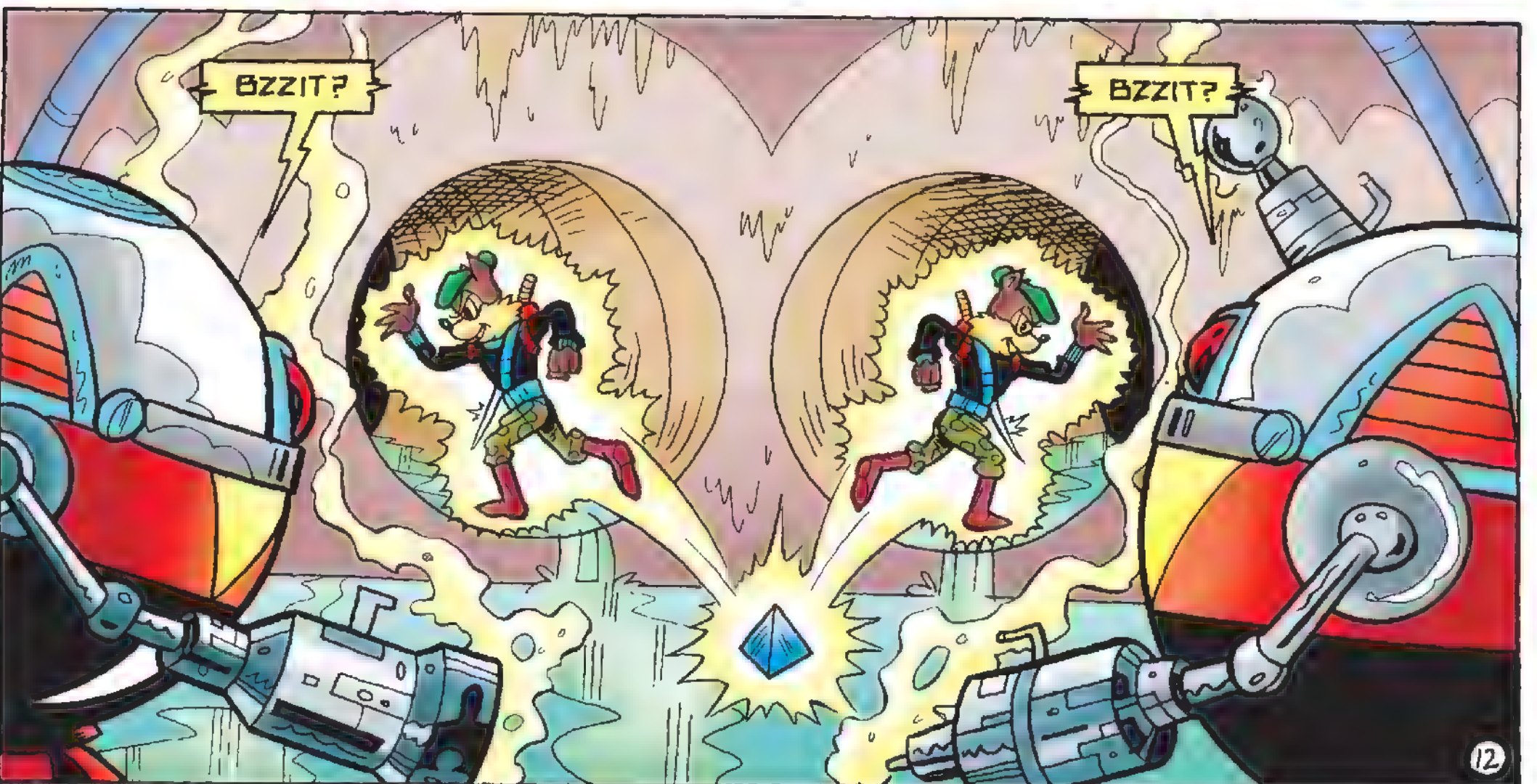
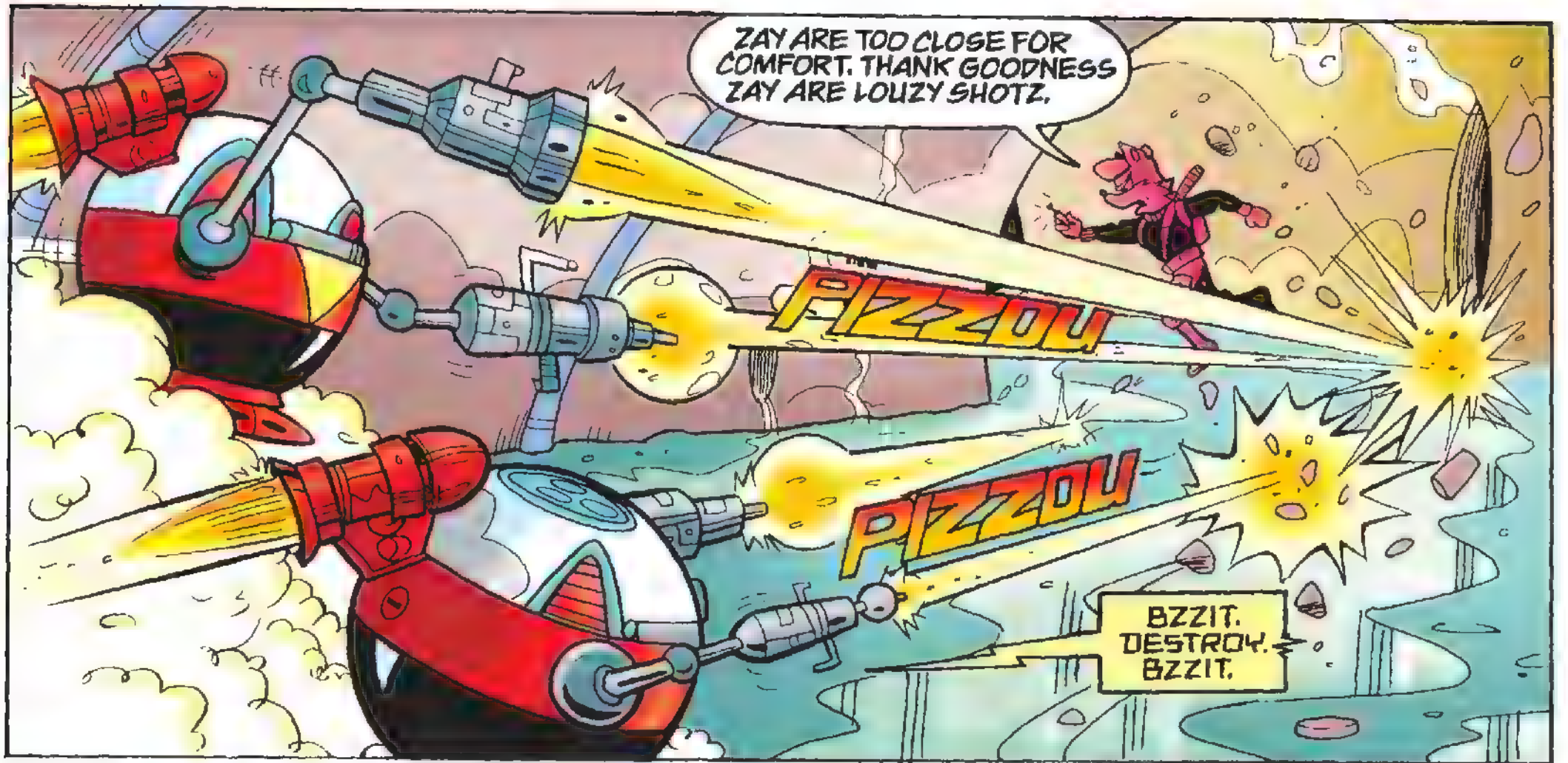
DO ZEES GUYZ EVA GIVE UP?

I'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE. MUST... WARN... OTHERS...

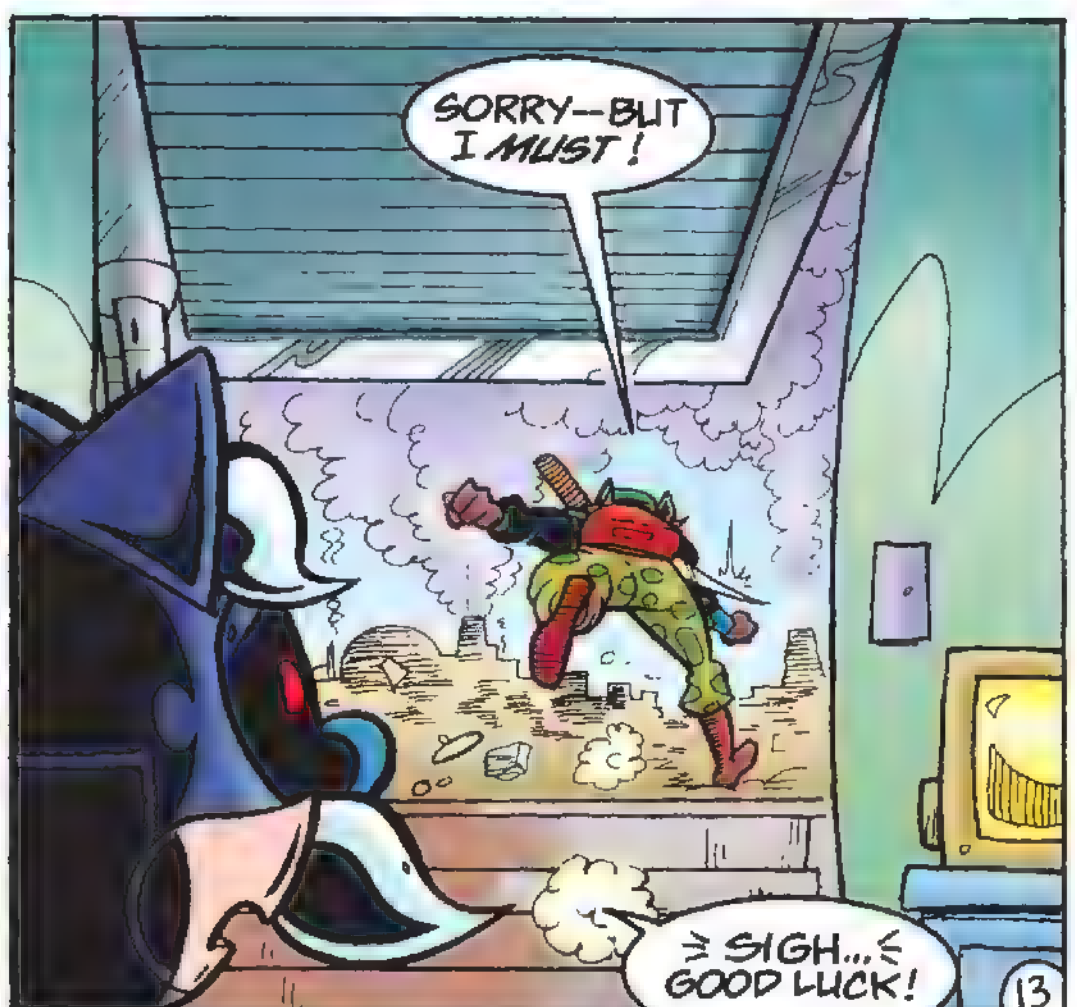
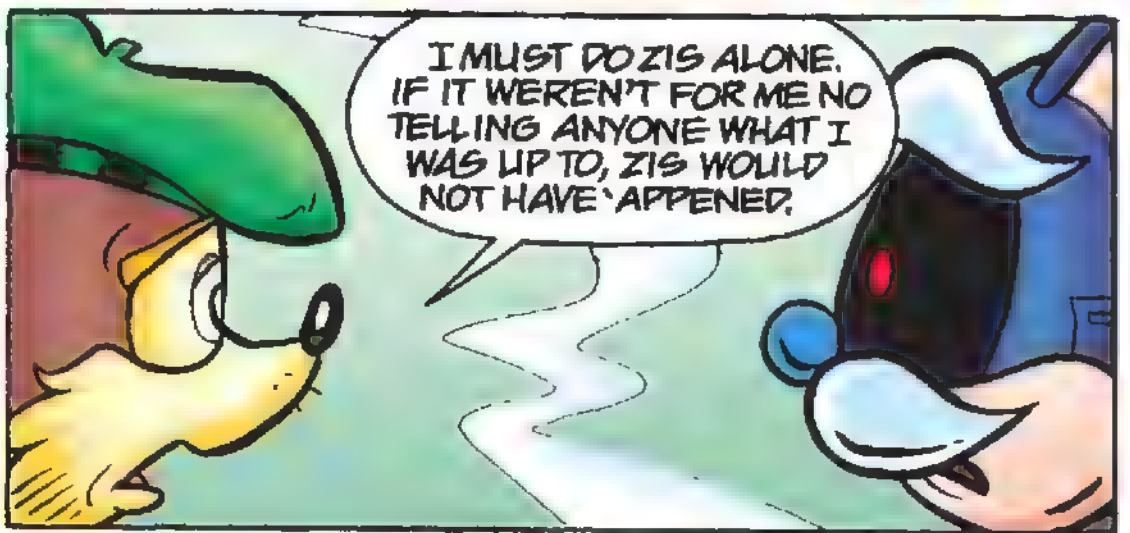
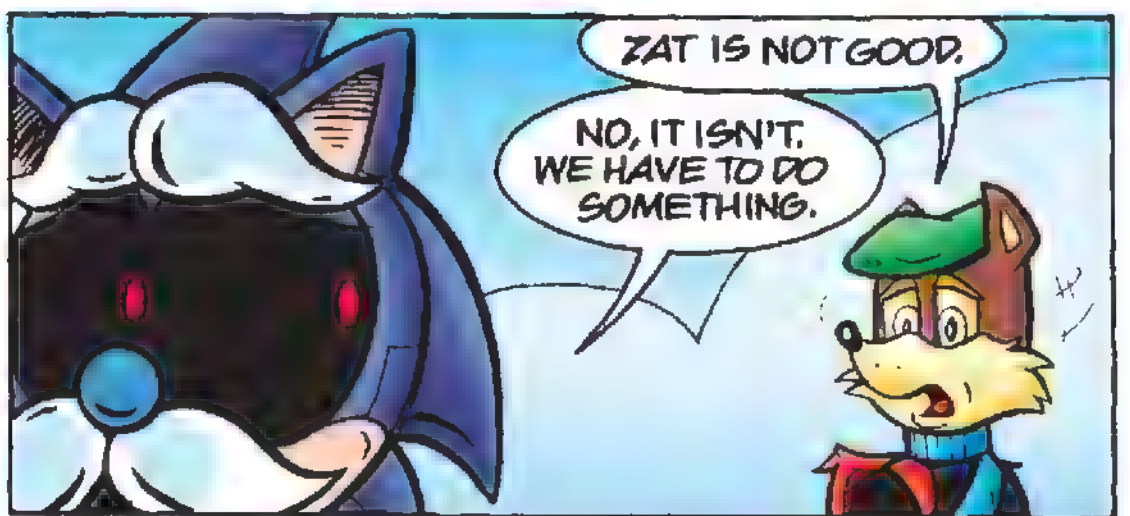
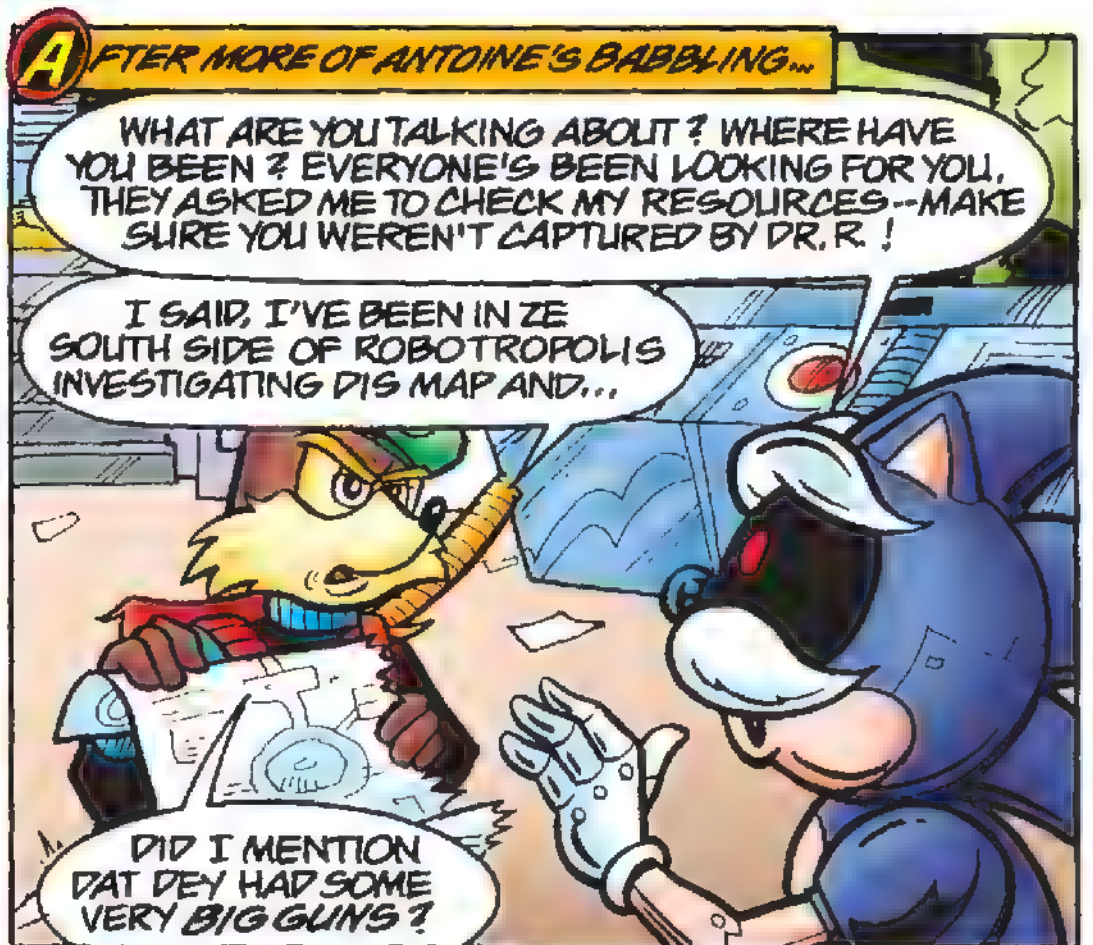
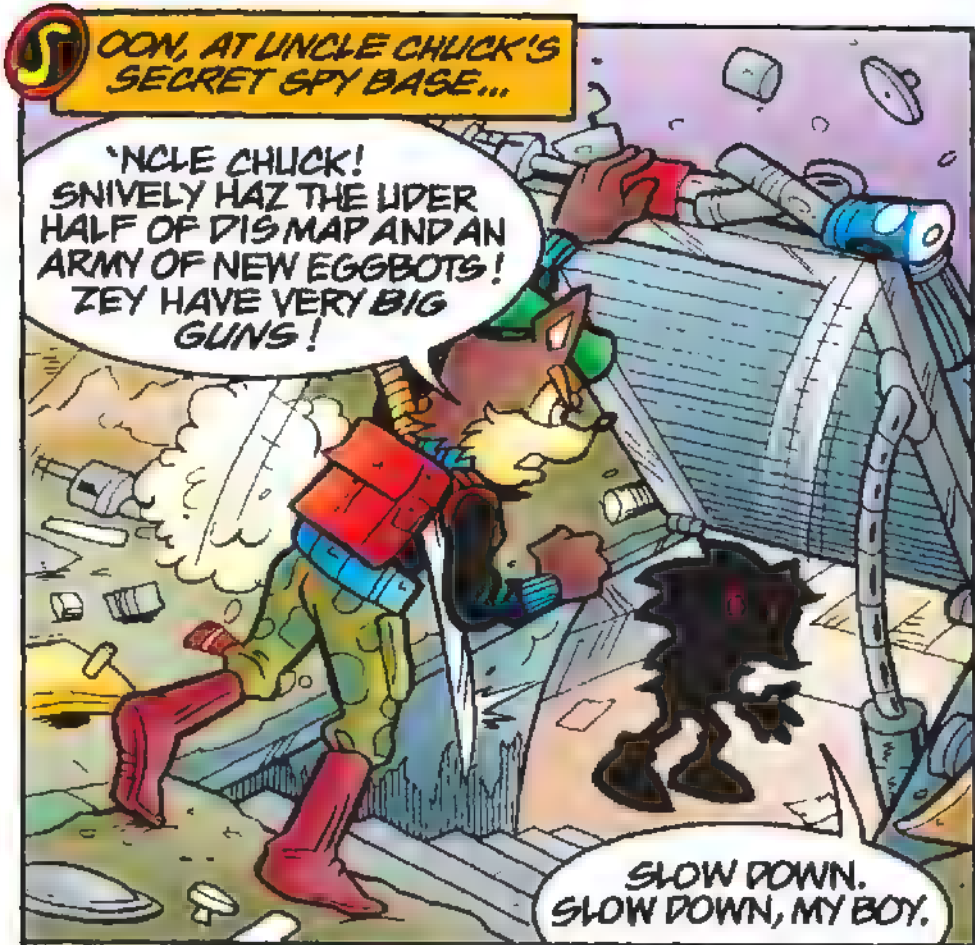




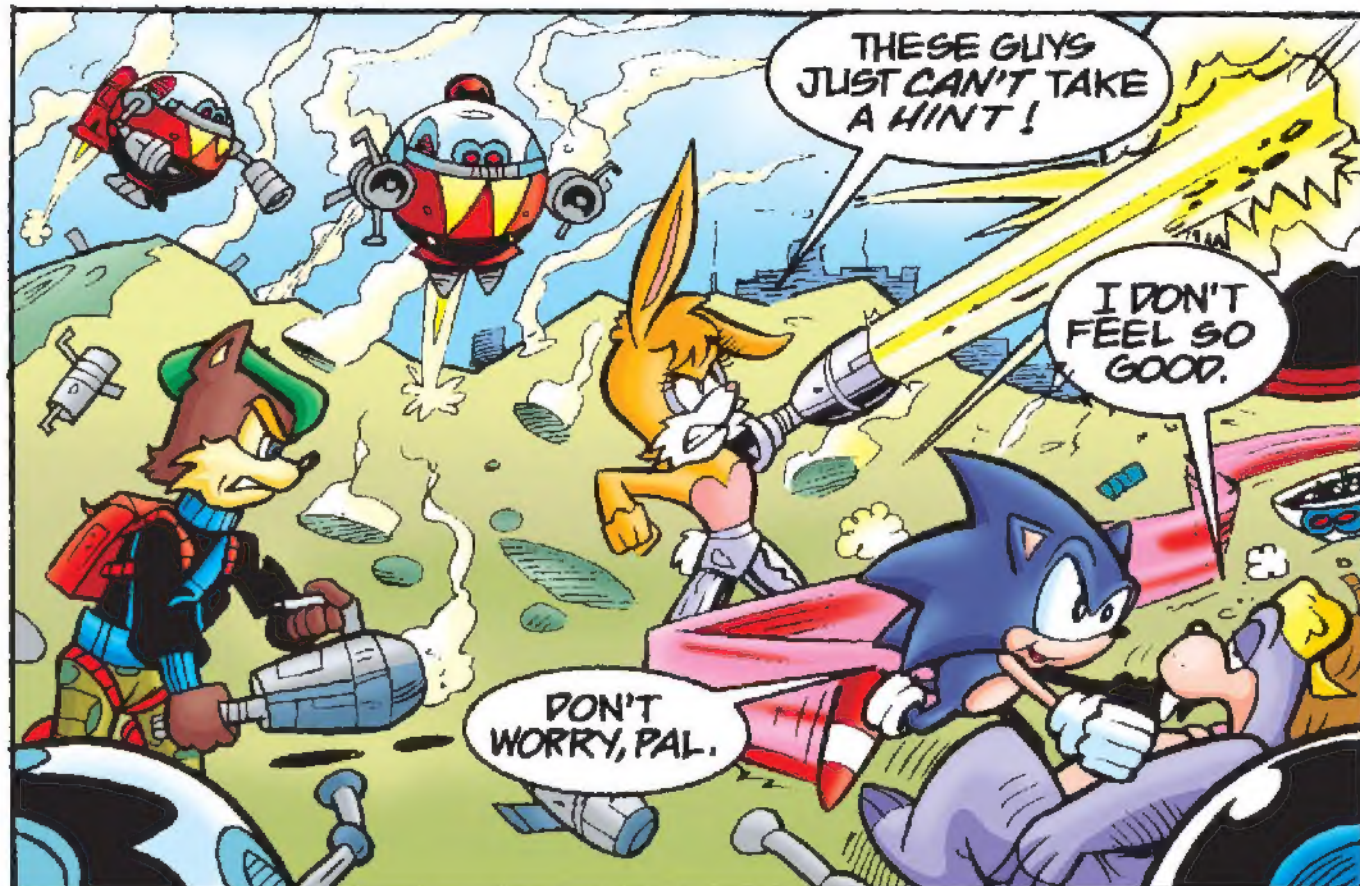
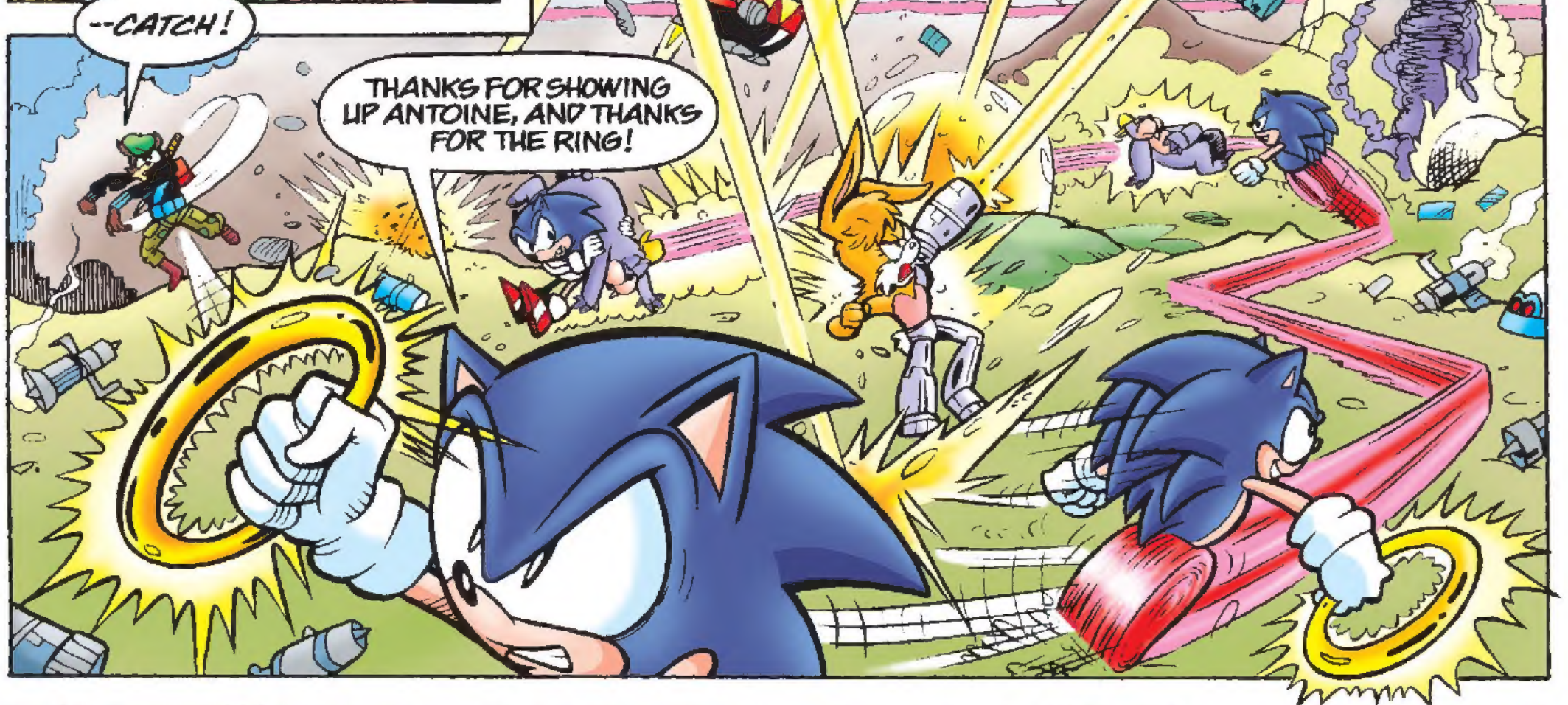
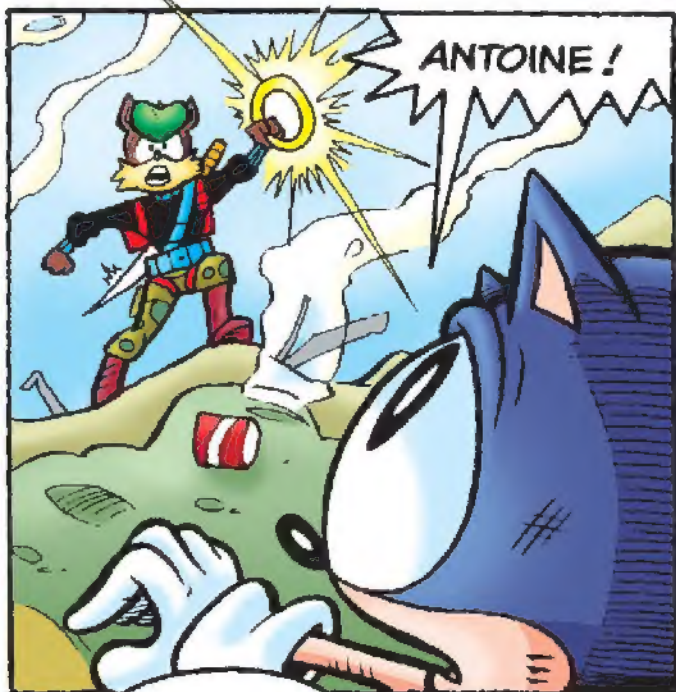




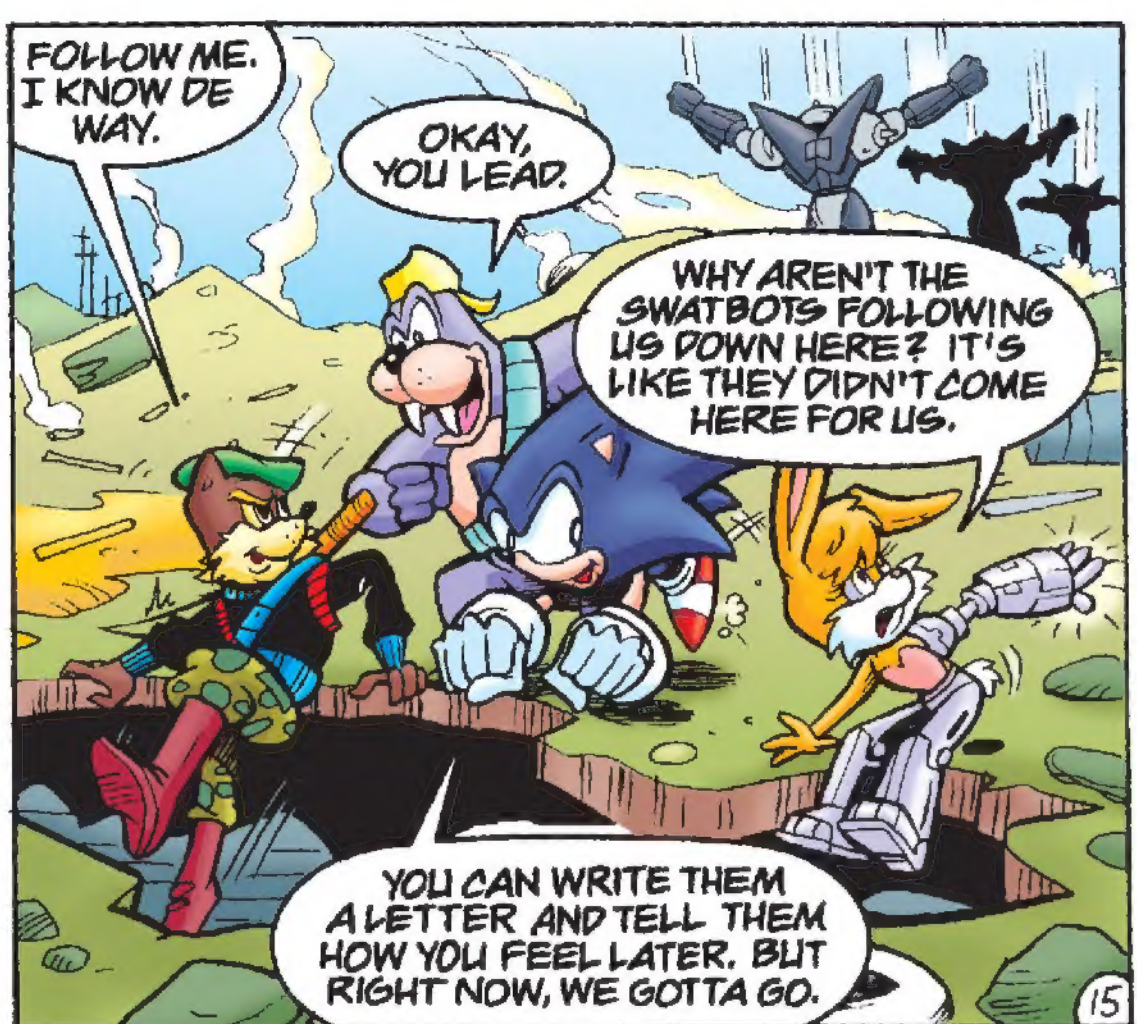
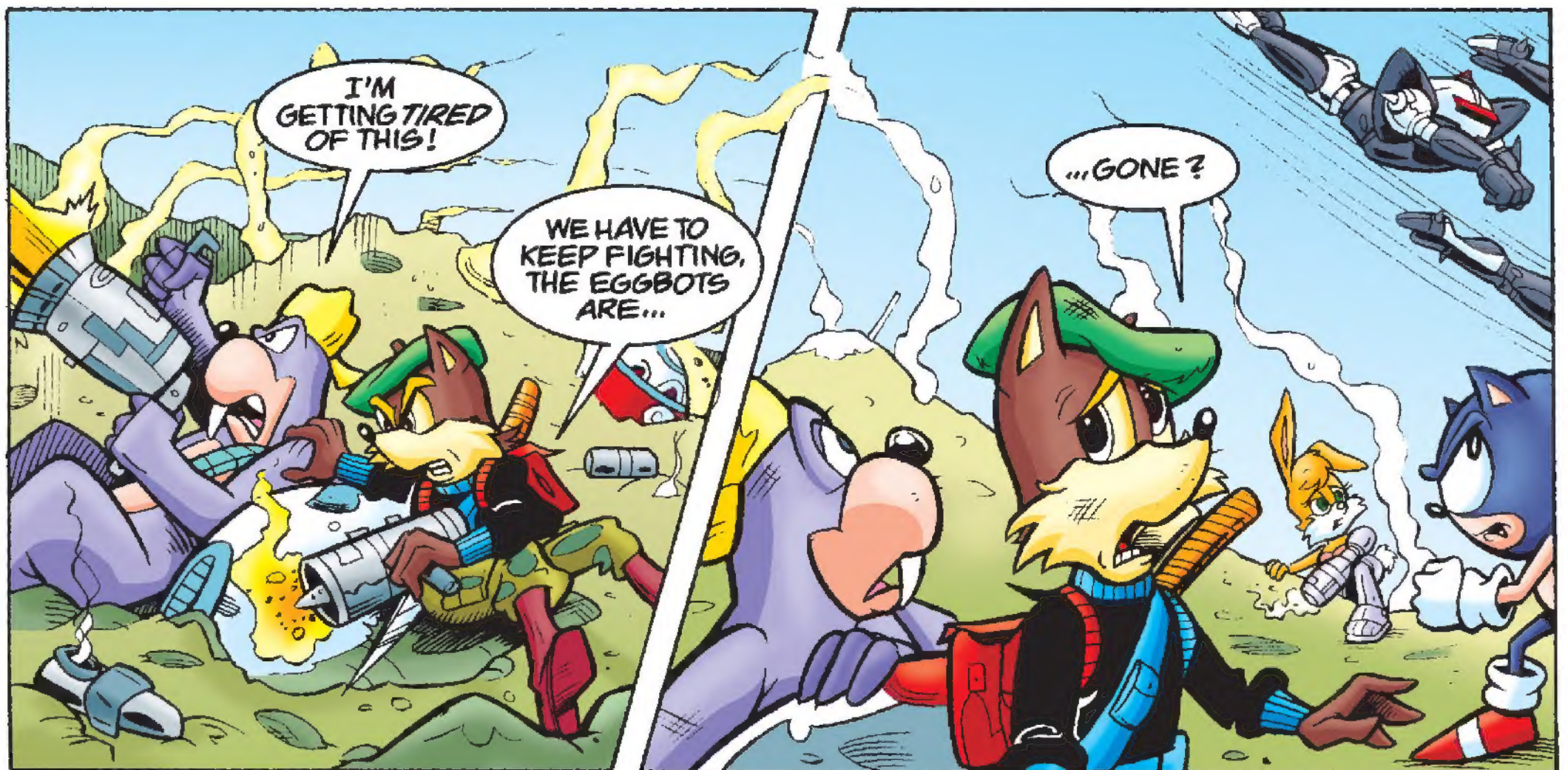
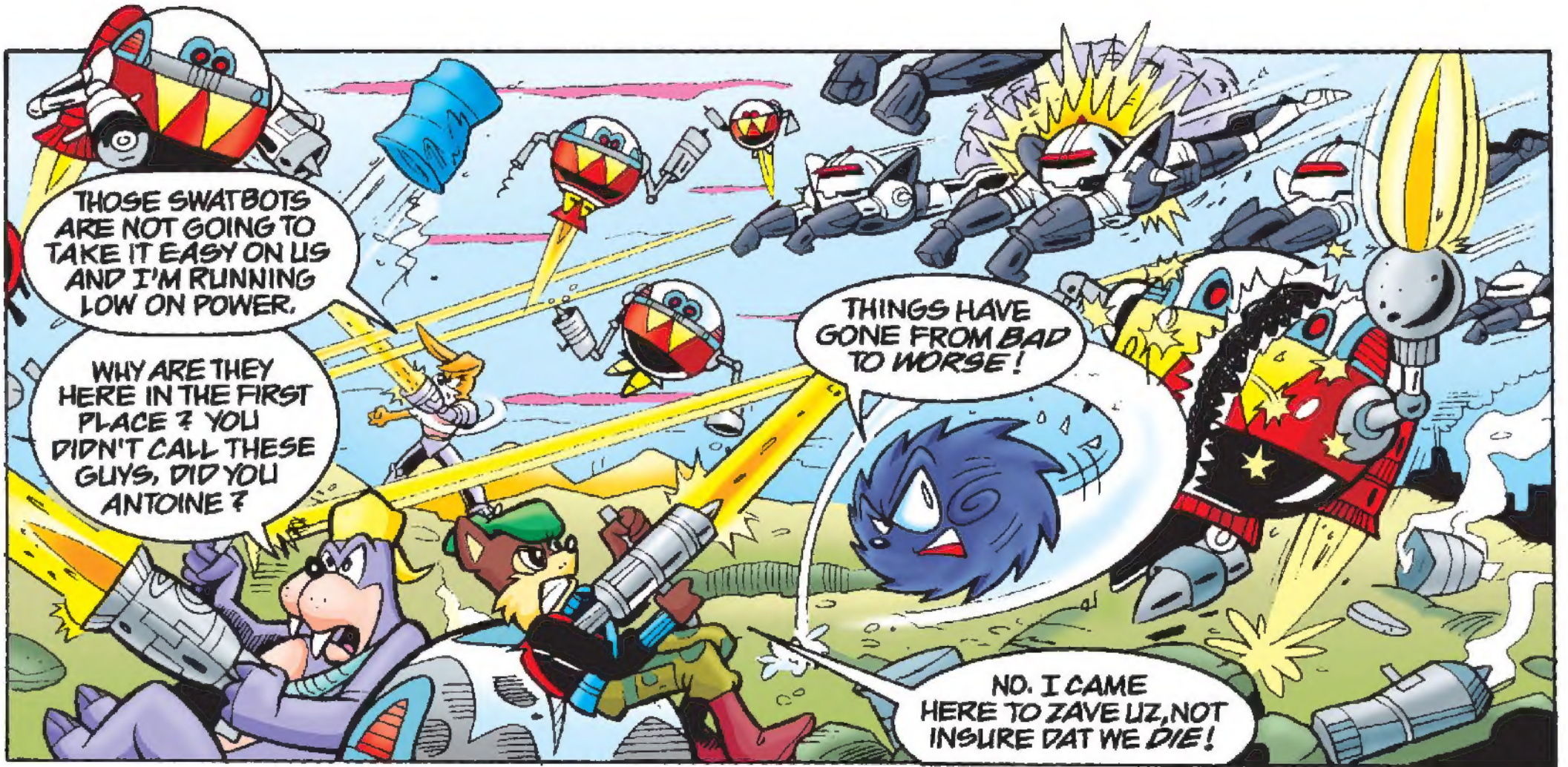




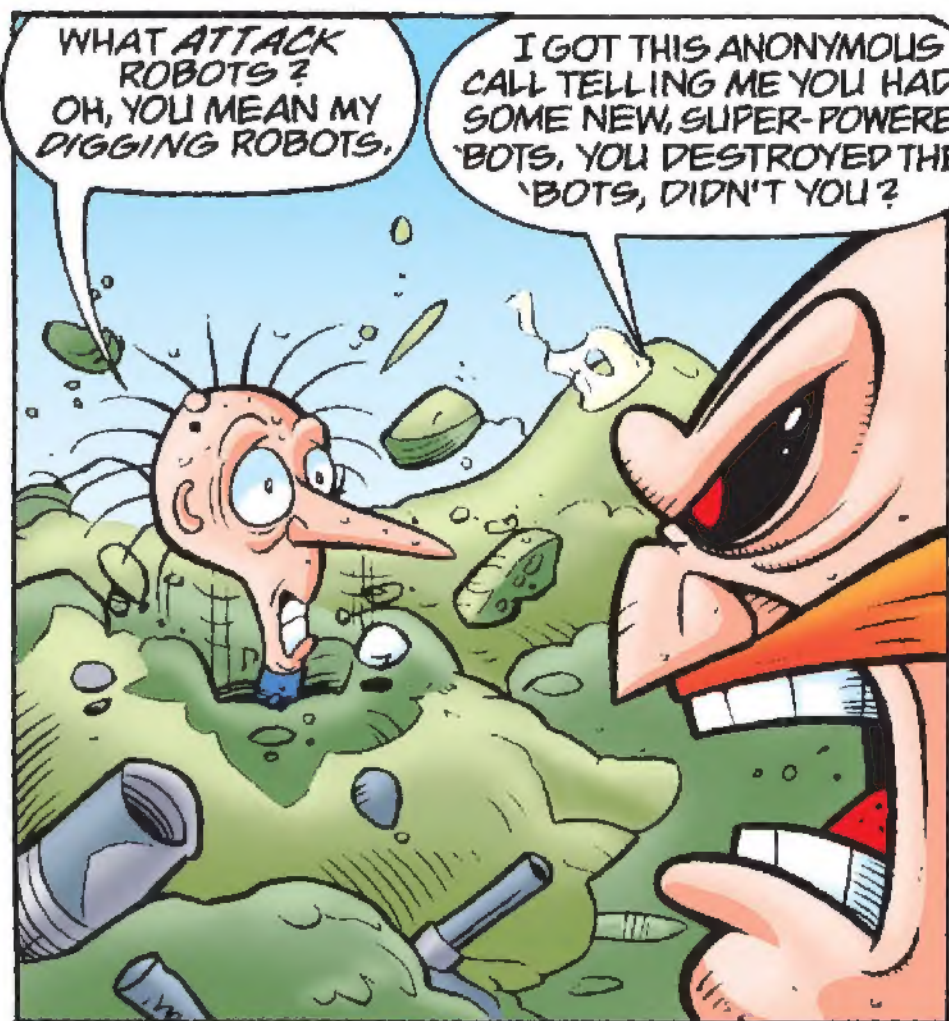
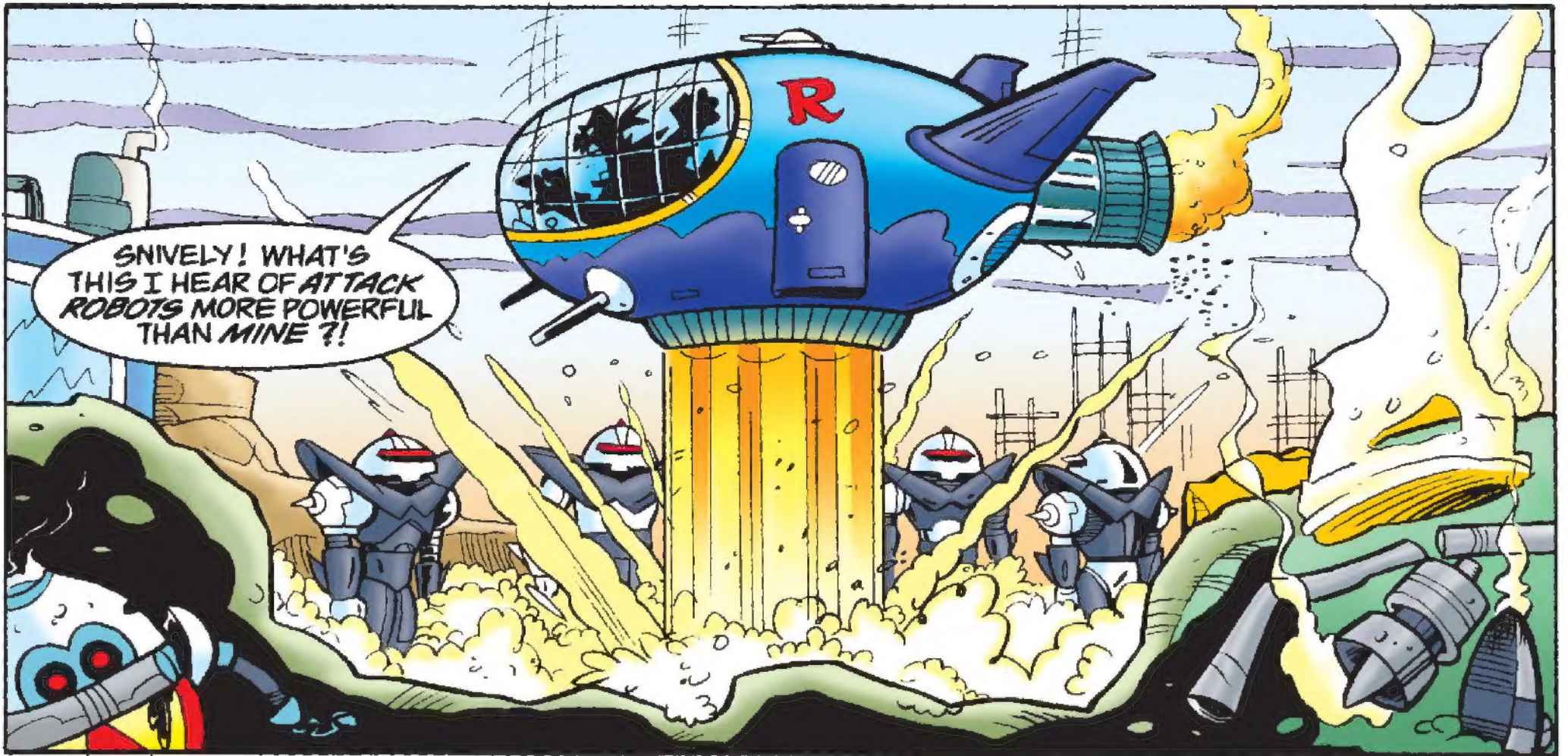








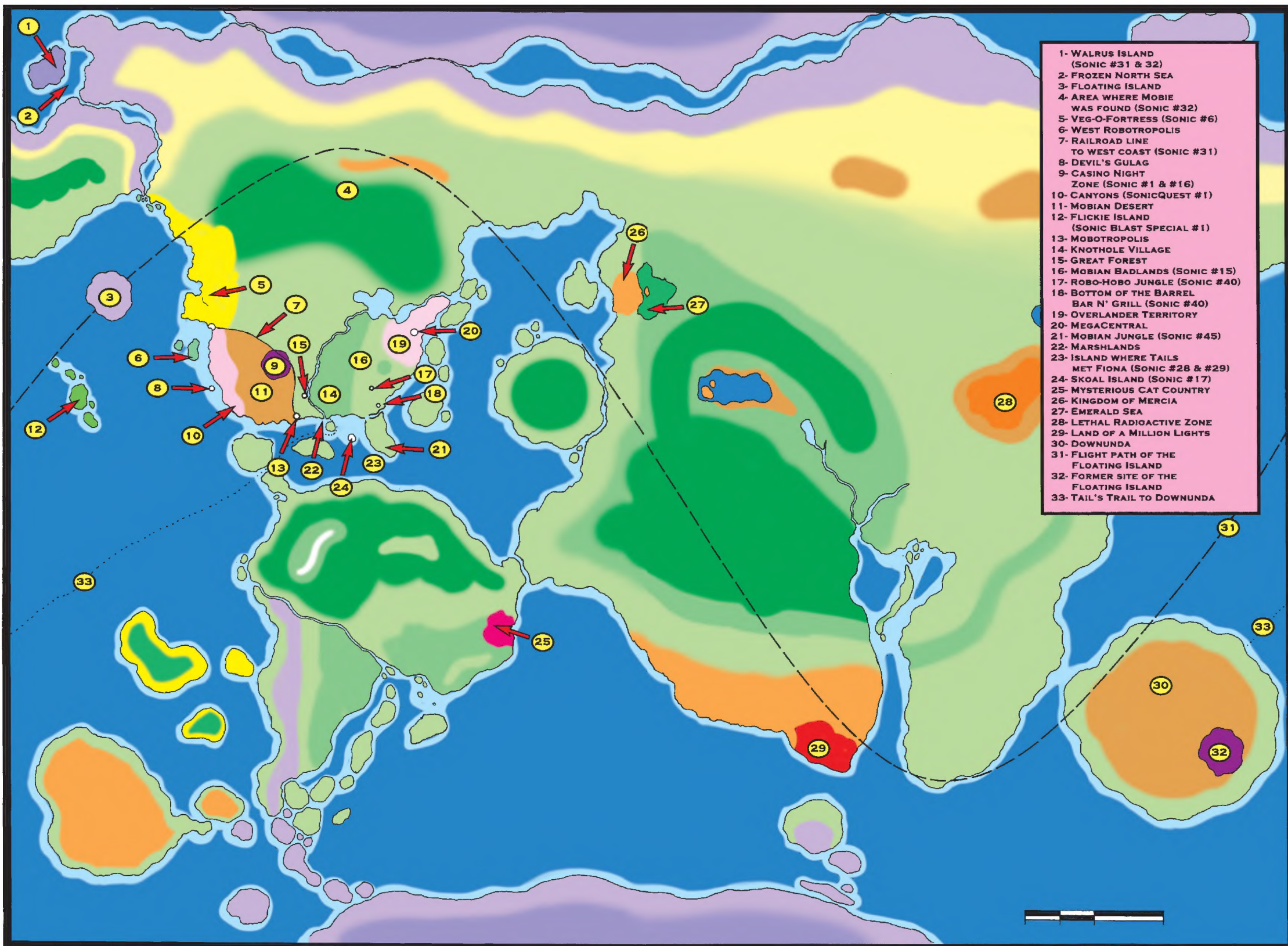




**B**ACK IN KNOTHOLE...







- 1- WALRUS ISLAND (SONIC #31 & 32)
- 2- FROZEN NORTH SEA
- 3- FLOATING ISLAND
- 4- AREA WHERE MOBIE WAS FOUND (SONIC #32)
- 5- VEG-O-FORTRESS (SONIC #6)
- 6- WEST ROBOTROPOLIS
- 7- RAILROAD LINE TO WEST COAST (SONIC #31)
- 8- DEVIL'S GULAG
- 9- CASINO NIGHT ZONE (SONIC #1 & #16)
- 10- CANYONS (SONICQUEST #1)
- 11- MOBIAN DESERT
- 12- FLICKIE ISLAND (SONIC BLAST SPECIAL #1)
- 13- MOBOTROPOLIS
- 14- KNOTHOLE VILLAGE
- 15- GREAT FOREST
- 16- MOBIAN BADLANDS (SONIC #15)
- 17- ROBO-HOBO JUNGLE (SONIC #40)
- 18- BOTTOM OF THE BARREL BAR N' GRILL (SONIC #40)
- 19- OVERLANDER TERRITORY
- 20- MEGACENTRAL
- 21- MOBIAN JUNGLE (SONIC #45)
- 22- MARSHLANDS
- 23- ISLAND WHERE TAILS MET FIONA (SONIC #28 & #29)
- 24- SKOAL ISLAND (SONIC #17)
- 25- MYSTERIOUS CAT COUNTRY
- 26- KINGDOM OF MERCIA
- 27- EMERALD SEA
- 28- LETHAL RADIOACTIVE ZONE
- 29- LAND OF A MILLION LIGHTS
- 30- DOWNUNDA
- 31- FLIGHT PATH OF THE FLOATING ISLAND
- 32- FORMER SITE OF THE FLOATING ISLAND
- 33- TAIL'S TRAIL TO DOWNUNDA